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Niagara wins 3 — 1 over Cambrian
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Christmas SAC at Glendale campus
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VOLUME 30 ISSUE 5

Niagara News is produced by the Journalism — Print students at Niagara College, Welland Campus



High-tech demo

From left: Kevin Reles, Andrew Neale and Pia Sandström Arnds, members of Niagara College's Board of Governors, tour the college's recently completed Centre for Integrated Manufacturing Training and Applied Research, at the Glendale campus, in Niagara-on-the-Lake. Guiding the tour is Al Munro (at right), co-ordinator of the Manufacturing Engineering Technology (co-op) program. See related photo on Page 3.

Photo by John Robbins

Aramark employees unhappy with contract wage negotiations

By CASSANDRA SIMONS
Staff Writer

Aramark employees at Niagara College's Welland campus are unhappy with their wages.

An interruption of service may occur, said an Aramark employee who did not wish to be named.

The employee, a member of the Ontario Public Service Employees Union (OPSEU) Local 214, said the employees' contract expired Feb. 24 and they have been work-

ing without one ever since.

"The contract that ran out gave us approximately 20 cents an hour raise every year," the employee said. "The company is now offering us 12 cents. We don't think that's enough. We'd like at least what we used to get, but we'd like 25."

The employee said on Nov. 8 the company and the members of OPSEU met with a conciliator. The company has until Dec. 1 to

table an offer OPSEU will accept or the employees can strike.

"The company is saying their backs are against the wall," the employee said. "We're saying the same thing. It's in Toronto's hands to determine whether we'll strike or not. They are the ones that have to come up with an offer now. If they don't come up with a better one, we'll have to walk."

If a strike takes place, it will

Continued on page 3

Maid of the Mist expansion top priority

By JOHN ROBBINS
Staff Writer

A \$7.3-million expansion project at the Maid of the Mist Centre, in Niagara Falls, has been given top priority by college officials.

Niagara College's Board of Governors approved the submission of two requests for provincial funding totalling \$18.1 million, at its Nov. 18 meeting held at the Glendale campus, in Niagara-on-the-Lake.

The college is asking the provincial government for \$5.3 million for a planned expansion of the Maid of the Mist Centre, and \$12.7 million for expansion and renovations to the Welland campus. The total cost of the Welland campus projects is estimated at \$17.3 million.

In its submission, the college identified the Maid of the Mist Centre application as its top priority...

Both projects are part of the college's recently announced \$43-million Master Plan II capital improvements.

Hans van der Slagt, the college's vice-president of administration, said the government requires an institution to "prioritize" its requests when more than one application is submitted for approval. In its submission, the college identified the Maid of the Mist Centre appli-

cation as its top priority, while the Welland campus application was identified as the college's second choice, van der Slagt confirmed.

The college's applications were made under the provincial

'It becomes a question of first come, first served.'

— Tom Gauld

government's new SuperBuild program. Unveiled during last month's throne speech, SuperBuild vests all of Ontario's capital infrastructure spending under one program — \$742 million this year alone.

Because of the short amount of time between the announcement of the SuperBuild program and the Nov. 15 deadline for applications, the college's applications were submitted before receiving the approval of the Board of Governors. Both applications had been reviewed and approved by the board's property committee.

"It's a funny system when the government says you've got three weeks," said Tom Gauld, chair of the Board of Governors, during the meeting.

"It becomes a question of first come, first served. It's a funny way to make a decision."

The government has already begun considering applications, and the college may have an answer to its request within the next few weeks.



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On the cutting edge



From left: Pia Sandström Arnds, Deborah Sevenpifer, Andrew Neale and Peggy Davidson, all members of the college's Board of Governors, look on as Al Munro, (at right), co-ordinator of the Manufacturing Engineering Technology (Co-op) program, shows off the new, state-of-the-art equipment at the Centre for Integrated Manufacturing Training and Applied Research (CIMTAR). Governors toured CIMTAR as part of their Nov. 18 board meeting.

Photo by John Robbins

OSAP confusion

By MIRANDA HUBBS
Staff Writer

Not everyone who applies to the Ontario Student Assistance Program (OSAP) will get the money.

OSAP is designed to assist students only with their educational costs.

"It is not, nor ever has been, designed to provide full costs to any given student," says Elaine Grandmaison, financial aid adviser. "The program doesn't cover all your costs. It simply complements what the student made over the summer and what the parents can contribute."

"When you fill out your application, the information goes through a computer that assesses your educational costs and living costs, then subtracts what can be contributed from other sources. The result is what you are eligible for."

The money comes from the federal and provincial governments. Sixty per cent comes from federal funds and the other 40 per cent comes from the province's educational budget. Although applicants take their forms to the bank, it is the government they pay back. The bank is only the intermediary.

After graduation the next worry

on students' minds is when they must pay the loan back and what the interest is going to be. From the last day of class, students have six months until they have to go to the bank to consolidate their loans into one.

"At that time the interest you pay will be what the rate is at the time. The sooner you go to consolidate, the better, but you still have the six-month 'grace' period," says Grandmaison. It is between the bank and the student what kind of payment plan is most suitable for the student. However, the longer the student takes to pay the loan back, the higher the interest rate is going to be.

When a student applies for a loan, he or she must remember the money is for school not recreation. The student's academic record is monitored and if the student doesn't maintain a 60 per cent average, the student will first get a warning but could get cut off the next time.

To apply for a loan, students can go to the nearest financial aid office and pick up a form for a \$10 fee, or they can apply online, a procedure which is free and faster, at <http://osap.gov.on.ca>.

Threatened strike could affect students

Continued from Page 1
affect 14 to 16 OPSEU workers at the college. It will affect Niagara College faculty, students and the company as well, the employee said. "If the strike occurs, faculty and students will have to make other arrangements for meals, snacks and coffees, unless of course, the company brings in other workers."

Joan Jones, one of the two union stewards at the Welland campus, confirmed the employee's information.

"We are in negotiations right now, but we may have to strike. We have hopes that the students and faculty will support us. We'd like everyone to understand where we stand and why we'll strike, if we strike, if the company doesn't come up with a better offer," said Jones, of Welland.

Russ Ellerton, staff representa-

tive of OPSEU, said he represents the college's employees as well as Aramark's employees. The OPSEU office is at 2285 Hwy. 20 E. in Pelham.

"We had a number of issues which we have been able to resolve except for one thing — wages."

He said they had already resolved a recognition clause in the bargaining unit, seniority and its role, and layoffs and exclusivity.

He said they also resolved issues on adoption leave, pregnancy leave, term agreement and medical certification.

"All of these issues have been resolved except wages," said Ellerton. "The majority of the workers are called general help, or cafeteria help. They make \$7.66 at the higher end of the scale. That's peanuts. It's barely

over minimum wage and they have to pay for a parking permit out of that."

Ellerton said the negotiation process is over. The company and the employees are in conciliation.

'The majority of the workers are called general help or cafeteria help. They make \$7.66 at the higher end of the scale. That's peanuts. It's barely over minimum wage and they have to pay for a parking permit out of that.'

— Russ Ellerton

"We met with the conciliator/mediator that's mandatory by the government, on Nov. 8. What he'll do now is go away and

issue a no board report or recommend a no board report. Normally then you are in a strike or lockout position."

"Usually during the twenty-third hour the conciliator calls the parties back together for a last try. So until then, until that happens, you can't really say for sure when the strike will happen."

"At the moment there's a pretty good chance of a strike. We're not talking about a lot of money here. Aramark is a multi-national company; they have the money to give the employees."

"There's a matter of principal here as well as wages."

A representative for Aramark was unavailable for comment.

Aramark employees provide service at the following campus locations: the cafeteria, Mr. Sub and Java Cafe.

Police ready for biggest party of century

By MONICA PALINIEWICZ
Staff Writer

Since 1998, members of the Hamilton-Wentworth Regional Police (HWRP) have been working on a Y2K action plan.

From a recent Y2K newsletter, compiled by Mayor Anne Bain, chair of the Police Services Board, and Kenneth Robertson, chief of the HWRP, citizens are to be assured of the following, as the millennium quickly approaches.

• All internal computer systems have been examined and they will

all be Y2K compliant. No interruptions in normal operating systems are expected.

• The police want everyone to have a great time during their Y2K celebrations, however, the police will not tolerate unlawful behaviour which affects the safety of people or property.

• There will be an increased police presence on the streets, including several R.I.D.E. lanes throughout the region.

• Police staffing levels will be maximized for New Year's Eve.

• The 911 centre will be fully staffed for New Year's Eve.

• A business continuity plan has been developed to ensure that effective and efficient service is provided for the community. Contingency plans will kick in if any unforeseen events threaten the operations of police stations.

• Hamilton-Wentworth Regional Police are continuing to work with neighbouring police agencies and other local emergency response agencies to ensure that they can effectively work

together to address any emergency situation that may arise.

• Sergeant Dennis Waddle, head of media relations for the HWRP, says, "We are well equipped with staff and force and ready for anything. We are confident that things will run smoothly."

"We want people to feel safe and assured that things are all set and under control," said Waddle. "Right now we're just hoping for the best because it's better than having no hope at all."

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Quality education declining, says study

By JOHN ROBBINS
Staff Writer

Despite rising tuition costs for students, the quality of education provided by Ontario's 25 community colleges has declined over the past five to 10 years, according to a York University study.

Called Voices from the Classroom, the study concludes that unless the college sector is refinanced, this trend will continue.

"Education has to be seen as a priority, rather than a liability at budget time," Jerry White, the study's author, said in

an interview with the *Niagara News*.

Since 1991, annual provincial operating grants to Niagara College have dropped by 42 per cent — from over \$5,000 a student, to under \$3,000 a student at present. During this same period, enrolment has gone up by 33 per cent.

White, a professor of sociology at the University of Western Ontario, in London, warned, "It's the future that is most frightening. It's going to be much worse in the next seven years."

The Association of Colleges of Applied Arts and Technology of Ontario predicts college enrolment will jump by as much as 21 per cent over the next five years.

The study, which cost about \$33,000, was conducted by the Centre for Research on Work and Society, affiliated with York University, Toronto. Of this cost, about \$20,000 was offset by an "arm's length" research grant from the Ontario Public Service Employees Union (OPSEU). Providing information for the survey were 515 professors, librarians and counsellors selected randomly from across the college system.

The study's findings include the following:

- Almost 65 per cent of those surveyed said the overall quality of education has declined in the last five years.
- 78 per cent of teachers indicated an increase in class size over the last five years — some by as much as 20 per cent.
- 86 per cent said the changes in class size have negatively affected the quality of education.
- 56 per cent of faculty reported a decrease in time spent with students outside the classroom.
- 71 per cent of instructors reported a decline in the quality of the curriculum covered because of the reduced number of weeks for each course.
- 78 per cent of the faculty surveyed said their "stress level" had increased, while almost 64 per cent said they are less satisfied with their jobs.

The study, White cautioned, "should not be



DAN PATTERSONw

read as a criticism of the colleges, the faculty or the students themselves."

"In a way, it speaks to the wonderful job both teachers and students are doing in coping."

Sherri Rosen, president of OPSEU Local 242, which represents the college's faculty, said she was not surprised by the study's findings, adding, "We (the union) have been saying this for years."

"The faculty have worked very hard to minimize the impact (of provincial funding cuts), but there is no question that quality has been affected."

Dan Patterson, president of Niagara College, said, "Colleges have risen to the challenge," presented by decreased provincial funding.

"Faculty do an outstanding job working with the students despite the declining dollars."

While calling the study "compelling," Patterson said, "it undervalues the work that has been done within

the college system to insure that students receive the best possible learning experience."

"It can be very self-defeating to focus solely on the declining public dollars."

Patterson pointed to Niagara College's most recent Key Performance Indicator (KPI) evaluation, which showed that 88 per cent of graduates had found work within six months of completing their program. Of the employers surveyed, 82 per cent said they were satisfied with the graduates they hired.

While KPIs survey students and employers, they do not solicit the views of faculty — the very thing upon which the White study is based.

"It's a very valid comment that KPIs don't address directly what faculty think about training issues. It's time to go beyond those indicators and get more feedback from faculty," Patterson said.

"A smart organization finds ways and means of getting feedback from the frontlines."

He noted the government's requirement that colleges collect KPI information came with no additional resources, adding, "We (colleges) are stretched to deal with the present data collection."

When asked about faculty not being included in KPI evaluations, Rosen's response was clear: "If the college really wanted the input of the faculty, they could get it."

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POLITICS

Governance forum prompts
quasi referendum in Fort ErieBy TARA PURPURA
Staff Writer

If the impromptu referendum taken at the Governance Public Forum on Nov. 16 is any indicator of how residents of Fort Erie feel about amalgamation, then the Region had better prepare them for the inevitable while wearing kid-gloves.

At the public forum, questions and comments from the public were heard by a panel of three making up the Regional sub-committee on governance: Debbie Zimmerman Regional chair, and co-chairs Judy Casselman and Bob Bentley, Regional councillors.

One man stood to address the panel and stated that in order for the Region to understand how residents of Fort Erie feel about amalgamation, a vote should be taken. Of the 40-plus crowd, all attending were in favour of eliminating the Region with the exception of two individuals.

Although the provincial government has appointed special advisers to other municipalities, an adviser for the Region of Niagara had not yet been appointed. Instead, Regional council and municipal councils in the area have begun the process before it's imposed by the province by defining and creating a form of governance that would be "Made in Niagara," said Zimmerman.

"Exploring the culture of Niagara and understanding what it is to live in Niagara is essential and must be incorporated into any decision made about reform," said Zimmerman.

"I feel that every regional government in Ontario has an expiry date," said former mayor of Port Colborne, Coleman Bagu, of Fort Erie, "Without the Region we couldn't afford (services) like water or police."

The provincial government has five criteria regarding a model of governance that must be maintained by Niagara: fewer municipal politicians, lower taxes, better and more efficient service delivery, less bureaucracy and clear lines of responsibility, and better accountability at the local level.

Wayne Redekop, mayor of Fort Erie, said that if anyone from the province were to look at Fort Erie, they would say that the town is falling within the guidelines for governance. The following are actions, or results from the Town of Fort Erie which fit the provincial recommendations:

- Fort Erie town council has established a restructuring task force.
- The municipal board shows a two per cent reduction in spending.
- The town offices are open 42.5 hours each week and have the second lowest expenditures for salaries and benefits.
- Consultants were recently approved to simplify and streamline the system.

The forum in Ridgeway was the second in a series of four by the joint committee on governance. The first was held on Nov. 10 at Centennial High School in Welland. On Nov. 23 the third forum was held at Grimsby Secondary School.

Submissions will be accepted for the final forum in this series on Nov. 30 at Niagara College's Glendale campus.



WAYNE REDEKOP

Welland prepared for restructuring

By TARA PURPURA
Staff Writer

With the number of facilities available in Welland, the city will be prepared for restructuring.

Dick Reuter was the honoured guest at the Chamber of Commerce event "An Evening With the Mayor" at the Welland Campus of Niagara College on Nov. 17.

Welland is "prepared" for a new governance structure. The Region of Niagara is bursting at the seams. "If we don't have the facilities, we won't have governance in Niagara."

Four topics were on the agenda: debt, a civic centre, strategies for paying for a civic centre, and "One Niagara and Why?"

Residents of Welland had an opportunity to ask questions and give their input as to how they view the prosperity and progress of the city.

Since 1991 the reserve fund for Welland has increased by 51 per cent. At present, Welland has \$38 million in assets. "I think we're in excellent shape," said Reuter.

Revitalizing the city centre includes the construction of a new city centre. Strategically located and connected, it would become the "hub of Niagara."

A new centre would be "more than an administrative building," said Reuter. It would be a community resource centre and is needed to deliver local services, he said.

The issue of governance and hiring a consultant for the region was raised. Reuter said he is in favour of hiring one. "I brought the recommendation up (to hire a consul-



DICK REUTER

tant) and they (the Region) said, 'Let's go.' Two weeks later 10 of 12 said yes. Two days later six of 12 said yes."

Reuter said that a city of 50,000 people can't afford the infrastructure needed to provide services if responsibilities are downloaded from the Region.

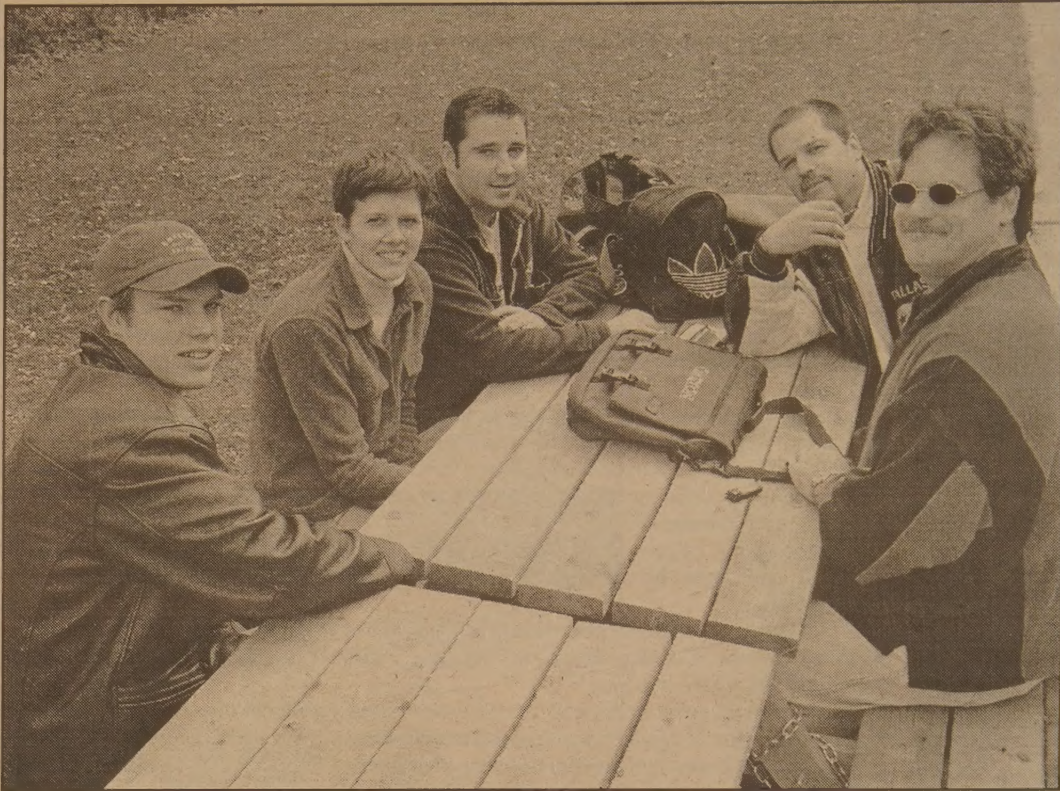
"You can't dismantle the Region and pass responsibilities to municipalities," he said.

"In the long haul one level of government is undoubtedly the way to go," Reuter said. "In my view, the bottom line is taxes are high enough. We need to take advantage of a synergistic approach."

"Uncertainty is the operative word. While there's change, we're uncertain where it's going to be," he said.

SAC

Enjoying warm weather



Students enjoy an unseasonably warm November day at the Maid of the Mist Centre, in Niagara Falls. These five second-year Hotel and Restaurant Management program students are, from left, Riley Holland, 20, Manda Morrison, 20, Ryan O'Connor, 22, Sean Gillan, 32, and Bob West, 40.

Photo by Penni Lafleur

Cost of health coverage receives negative reaction from some students

By ROBERT LAPENSÉE
Staff Writer

Niagara College students now have comprehensive health coverage, but at a cost some don't want to pay. Some students have reacted negatively to the inception of the health plan, which increased tuition by \$54.71. There is an escape clause for those who don't want the plan. Students must provide proof they are already covered by another plan and pay an administration fee of \$10. If they don't have proof of another health plan they must pay the full charge.

Karen Marasco, the Student Administrative Council (SAC) health care administrator, said in a health care plan report she prepared that concerns were brought to the attention of SAC that the administration fee was on all students whether they wanted coverage or not.

Of the 5,073 students enrolled at the college, 470, or about 10 per cent, opted out of the health plan.

"We provided a service and there is an administrative fee for the service," said Pichette, 19, the Welland campus vice-president of campus events. That fee is \$10 and covers the plan's operating cost, she said.

The health plan, a SAC initiative, was approved last year after 352 students, or seven per cent of the school population, participated in a college-wide referendum. The results were 97 per cent of that seven per cent voted for it.

Brigitte Chiki, the director of student services, said she couldn't find the referendum question but she remembers it saying there was a cost of \$54.71. She said she didn't think the \$10 fee for opting out was mentioned.

Before the referendum, students were asked how important the availability of comprehensive health care would be on the Student Satisfaction Survey. Twenty-eight per cent answered it would be "very important." Eleven per cent said it "would not be important at all" and 34 per cent said they didn't know.

Students help less fortunate

Christmas tree gift cards will bring children holiday happiness

By PENNI LAFLEUR
Staff Writer

It's never too early to start thinking of others because the community cares and so do Niagara College students.

The Student Administrative Council (SAC) has been busy at the three campuses trimming trees and decking the halls for the children of the community who may not be fortunate enough to have a Merry Christmas.

Every year SAC has been involved with Community Care to help needy families in the area share in the Christmas spirit with the angels program.

Community Care, of St. Catharines and Thorold, is a United Way agency that assists people in need with monthly food banks, clothing and household items. At Christmas time its Christmas bureau collects toys for the needy under the "adopt an angel" program.

Christmas trees will have about 30 cards placed in each with the gender and age of a child written on them. Students are encouraged to select a card and buy a gift for that child and place it under the tree.

Andrea Bowman, SAC president at the Maid of the Mist Centre in Niagara Falls, said every student who donates a gift would have a chance to win a prize donated by area sponsors. The Maid of the Mist Centre will donate all gifts collected to Project Share, in Niagara Falls.

Kevin Reles, SAC president at the Glendale campus in Niagara-on-the-Lake, said they began the program on Nov. 15 and will collect donations until Dec. 20.

The trees are located in the library at the Glendale campus, in the main entrance of the Maid of the Mist Centre, and in the library at the Welland campus.

SAC not participating in Access 2000 rally

By TARA PURPURA
Staff Writer

In the Nov. 12, Vol. 30, Issue No. 4 of the Niagara News an article regarding the Canadian Federation of Students' Access 2000 movement indicated that Niagara College's Student Administrative Council (SAC) would participate in the Feb. 2 rally.

The SAC constitution directs that no student can represent SAC in any political forum. Kevin Reles, SAC president at Glendale campus, said that if any person on council wishes to participate in the rallies he or she may but only as a student of the college and not as a representative of council.

"I'm doing this on my own as a student and not the vice-president of campus affairs at the Welland campus," said Patricia Pichette, 19, Welland campus vice-president of student affairs.

The rally on Feb. 2 wraps up the Access 2000 campaign, which has joined students from across the country to form a voice to address the federal and provincial governments regarding tuition costs.

SAC events enjoying success with students in Niagara Falls

By PENNI LAFLEUR
Staff Writer

Was it "Men of the Mist," or "In the Midst of Men"? Who can remember?

If you are one of those anxiously awaiting the arrival of the new millennium to get your hands on a copy of the previously announced Maid of the Mist men's calendar, Rick Denham, vice-president of campus affairs, is sad to report it will be "a no-go."

"I had a photographer lined up, but after we got estimates for the cost of the calendar we figured we'd have to charge \$30 a copy."

However, Student Administrative Council (SAC) representatives Denham and Stefan Struk, vice-president of campus events, said the politically correct "Friend for a Day" or "Rent-a-Friend" will "definitely" be held on Nov. 30 at East Side Mario's on Lundy's Lane, in Niagara Falls.

Andrea Bowman, SAC president at the Maid of the Mist Centre, said they have been very pleased with the co-operation shown by the management at East Side Mario's in setting up pub nights on Tuesdays so that the underage students can attend.

"They have a hall upstairs where we can host events such as Molson Canadian Extreme parties, Karaoke Night, a hypnotist and so on. It's nice for the students who are 17 and 18 to be able to come out and not just be in a bar atmosphere. They have been catering to us very well, and we are not restricted to the upstairs."

Bowman said that the "traditional" Wednesday pub nights are still held at the Daily Planet.

The Maid of the Mist Centre's SAC will be hosting its annual Christmas Bash on Dec. 9 at the Oakes Inn Falls View, at 6546 Buchanan St., in Niagara Falls.

Tickets will be available at the SAC office or at the door for \$15. The semi-formal dinner dance will feature a deejay for entertainment and includes \$500 in prizes.

Bowling nights have been reported to be "a success." Cataract Lanes, on Lundy's Lane, hosts the bowling competition on Tuesday nights with prizes for the best bowler, the best average, and the highest and lowest scores. Denham said about 60 people show up at the event held every two weeks and "have a really good time." The next bowling night is Dec. 13.

CAMPUS COVERAGE

Taking textbooks back to the woods

By MATT HOLLEY
Staff Writer

Tim-burrrr...

Niagara College students in the Horticulture Technician program were out Nov. 11, acquiring some practical knowledge in the field. It was their job to cut down a tree at 9 Queen St., in Fort Erie.

The tree was leaning to one side and the resident wanted it removed. The program offers this kind of service in the Niagara community because of the experience involved, said Don Papple, instructor for the arboriculture class.

"Nature is never the same as what it looks like in a textbook, so we like to go out and get some practical experience," Papple said.

Papple said he first finds people who need work done through word of mouth from his students. The residence they were working at belonged to a member of last year's program. The resident is working with a landscape company but didn't have the time to remove the tree himself.

Papple said the students also go



Brian Alkemade, 26, of Fonthill, slices through the trunk of a tree while course instructor Don Papple looks on.

Photo by Matt Holley

to some city sites for other experience, like leaf removal and sample collecting. Papple said the class does work for a few parks in the region.

"I like to give them back something for taking the time to talk to our students and allow them to come on their sites and take samples."

Work also comes from the public, Papple said. Residents hear about work the students have done from another person and phone the college.

Papple said he goes to the residence and examines what has to be done and if it suits the purpose of the class they go ahead and use it.

Disposal of the tree is left to the resident. After it falls, the students use chainsaws to cut the tree into cords for firewood. The average deciduous tree takes two years to dry enough to be suitable for firewood.

"This is great getting outside and all. It's great coming outdoors. It's the main reason I took

this course," said Ryan Davies, 20, of Dundas.

The first thing to do when preparing to cut down a tree is to assess the situation, said Papple.

The students check to see which direction the tree is leaning making sure no hydro wires cross the space it will fall through.

"Another thing we look for is dead stuff in the tree because it could fall out and hit someone in the head. We call those 'widow makers,'" said Papple.

Once the situation is assessed and the students have set up the proper pull lines, tied ropes to control the direction of the tree's fall, and established the striking distance, the cutting begins.

"The person doing the cutting has to check to make sure they have a clear route of escape, usually to the sides of the tree," said Papple.

When everything is completed and the tree turned into firewood, the students gather up their tools and head back to the school with experience needed for their chosen field.

Social networking benefits Law Clerk students

Program graduates give helpful advice on careers

By TRACEY ALLISON
Staff Writer

Law Clerk program students became better informed about their futures over wine and cheese.

This event was organized by Patricia Drozdowski, co-ordinator

of the Law Clerk program, and the first-year Law Clerk program students. Advisory committee members, co-op students, their employers, program graduates, the program's staff and students all attended this party.

Drozdowski said the students "really do a good job." She said organizing this party helps them get practice for when they begin to work.

Drozdowski started this idea and has been having a party every year for the past 22 years since she

began teaching at Niagara.

The four-hour evening party was held on Nov. 5 in the Tecumseh lounge at Niagara College's Welland campus. Drozdowski said it "was very successful."

The purpose of this event is to give students looking for co-op placement and graduates the opportunity to meet with potential employers and see who's hiring. Drozdowski said it is also an opportunity for students to meet with program graduates, get pointers

from them and ask questions about future employment. They can speak to students currently doing co-op to "see how it's going and see what work is like," Drozdowski said.

She said graduates, some from as far back as 1983, come from all locations, including Woodstock and Sault Ste. Marie. About 150 people attended. Drozdowski said there were many lawyers from Welland, Hamilton and Brantford. She said, this year, three lawyers from

Toronto attended. They will be hiring and have a student doing co-op there now.

During the party Drozdowski said they were "networking." For the first time there were door prizes, which was "lots of fun."

This event is "always important." "Grads in this field are very significant in the employment of future grads in this program." Overall, Drozdowski said this event "went very, very well."

Dental Hygiene students clean your teeth for less

By JAMIE McINTOSH
Staff Writer

Having your teeth cleaned at Niagara College is relatively inexpensive compared to a cleaning by your regular dentist.

'The client doesn't pay very much.'

The second-year Dental Hygiene students do the work at the clinic during the first term while the first-year students start practicing on dummies. The clinic is located on the third floor of the Simcoe building at Niagara College's Welland campus.

The registration fee for adults 16 years old and over is \$25. Children from five to 15 can register for \$10.

The hygienists will not examine children under five. The adult clinic operates from September through June. The children's clinic operates from January through June.

The dental work is done on a preventive basis, said Kathleen Adams. She is the co-ordinator for the School of Health Studies, which includes the Dental Hygiene and Dental Assistant programs.

"Clients," as Adams calls them, will first receive a short, one-hour appointment. Subsequent appointments will be made, if needed, and will be about three hours each in length.

"The client doesn't pay very much but they make up for it in the time they spend there. All the work done by the students has to be checked and rechecked by the instructors," said Adams.

The clinic is open from Tuesday to Friday. For more information regarding appointments call 735-2211, 641-2252, 563-3254, or 374-7454. The clinic's extension is 7758.

Where's the tooth fairy?



The kindergarten class from the Niagara College's Child Care Centre posed in the college's Dental Clinic during a tour with their guide, Ursula Pelissere, instructor, above. The tour was organized by Maria Theodosopoulou, 20, absent from photo, an Early Childhood Education student.

Photo by Jamie White

EDITORIAL

The Niagara News is a practical lab for the Journalism-Print program, covering the college community and other areas of interest. Opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the management of the Niagara News or the administration of

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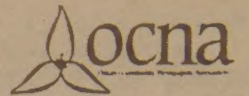
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Christmas should be a time for giving

We need a time during the year that doesn't cause us to be overly stressed about anything and everything in this crazy world.

Christmas is coming and Santa will be hard pressed to fill the stockings of those who asked for breast implants and homemade bomb kits.

The whole process of finding out who was naughty or nice this year may have to be determined by whether or not little Billy was caught with a gun in his pocket or whether or not little Jane was caught smoking up in the bathroom.

It's obvious we're not like our parents' generation. While they were getting train sets and Barbie dolls, we're asking for pagers and cell phones.

Santa, hop out of those red trousers and put on some jeans and a Hawaiian-style shirt. Get rid of Rudolph and the sleigh and in-line skate your way from house to house; you'll be able to lose weight so you might be able to fit down the chimney. If that doesn't work, then might I suggest liposuction?

Sucking a little fat from Santa's hips may improve his appearance, but I wonder if he would still be full of laughter and have those rosy-red cheeks we so adore.

If we had all the technology in the world and were to improve our outer appearance, would it really affect how we feel on the inside? Christmas is a time to fill that emptiness we feel by finding the fulfilment in giving, not receiving, and making someone else happy.

It seems as though we are missing the significance of what Christmas is supposed to mean and developing

this philosophy: the more expensive the gift, the more they'd know I love them.

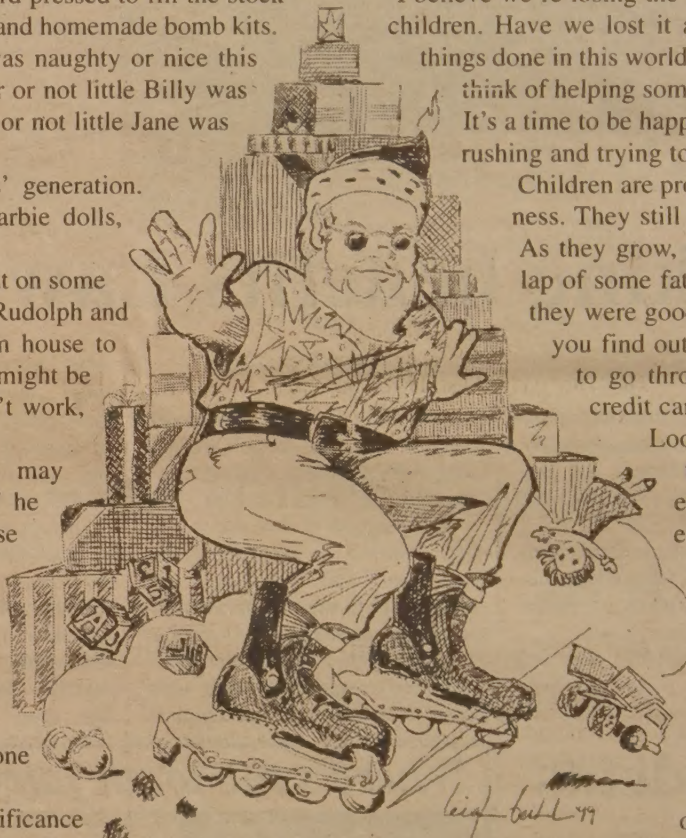
I believe we're losing the Christmas spirit we used to possess as children. Have we lost it altogether? Rushing and trying to get things done in this world, day after day, we are too tired to even think of helping someone else. Christmas is a time to relax. It's a time to be happy, but those times are overlooked with rushing and trying to get things done the night before.

Children are protected from all of this Christmas madness. They still leave out milk and cookies for Santa. As they grow, they find out they were sitting on the lap of some fat guy named Ralph who asked them if they were good this year. Then when you're an adult you find out you're Santa, which means you have to go through the process of maxing out your credit cards.

Look at the parents with hair pulled out, teeth clenched and bags under their eyes . . . no, my friend, that's not their everyday look. That's their "I've been to every toy store looking for that toy, and spent a fortune on it and you'll probably only be playing with it for an hour before you're bored with it" look.

With the Christmas spirit losing its magic, does that mean the stress and dysfunction will continue all 365 days out of the year?

Mandi Speelman



Harris, Lastman hearts too small

As Christmas approaches, commercials and other advertisements flood our senses. Visions haunt us of little children in Third World countries, hopeless and desolate with neither a home nor clothing to protect them from the elements. What we forget is that there are people in our own midst who are homeless and hopeless as well.

Thankfully Premier Mike Harris and Megacity Mayor Mel Lastman are determined not to let us forget about the needy in society. Reverse psychology is truly a marvel. It's amazing, in this day and age that by their Grinch-like actions, communities are made more and more aware of the plight of homeless people.

Housing facilities are closing down as winter approaches. Are we

being fooled by Harris-like little Cindy-Lou Who, who caught the mean Grinch stealing the Christmas tree too?

Is the premier, partnered with Lastman, really going to reduce spending in order to improve the quality of life or, like the Grinch who was so smart and so slick, will they think up a lie and think it up quick?

Now the premier and mayor, no one quite knows the reason, are in a rush to rid Toronto of the homeless this season. It could be that their heads weren't screwed on quite right. It could be, perhaps, that their shoes were too tight. I think that the most likely reason of all, may have been that their hearts were two sizes too small.

Tara Purpura

Your voice or opinion is welcome in our Letters to the Editor section. Our policy regarding letter submissions is this: All letters must be received on the Friday one week prior to publication. Each letter must include the writer's name, college identification number and program of study. All letters must be signed and include a day and evening telephone number for verification use only. All letters can be mailed or brought to the Niagara News newsroom, Room S212, Simcoe Building, Welland campus.

COMMENTARY

Teachers who discourage, harm students



By SHANNON MASTALER
Staff Writer

I'd like to congratulate all the professors who have made an impact on my life.

Niagara College is filled with inspiring teachers who genuinely care about their students. Thank you, to those of you who take the time to help your students, and thank you for your continuous encouragement and support. It is greatly needed and appreciated.

My problem does not lie with those teachers whom I have just thanked; it lies with those teachers who, for some reason, discourage students.

Recently, a good friend of mine went to the office of one of her teachers, in hopes of receiving some guidance. She did not get any guidance; in fact, she left the office in tears.

This student is not a bad student. She had good marks all throughout college and was simply seeking some encour-

agement. She did not deserve the attitude she got.

Why when some teachers mark an assignment do they only mark the bad aspects of it? Are they saying that in the entire assignment, there is nothing worth giving a check mark to? That seems impossible to me. Why not, like some teachers, note the bad and the good parts of the assignment? Maybe some encouragement instead of constant negativity would do students some good.

I was under the impression that all teachers are there to encourage us as well as teach us.

When students get discouraged, it takes a lot to make them feel confident again. It truly leaves an impact on their lives.

I believe if students got poor marks on assignments, comments about the good aspects of it would encourage the student to do better. They would know what not to change, as well as what to change. If nothing is marked right, how do students know if they have done anything correctly?

It is discouraging to have a teacher who only points out

the bad things. Without encouragement from teachers, students who receive bad marks won't want to ever do better. If good things were pointed out, students would want to do better, and more importantly, they would feel as if they could do better.

It makes students feel as if they can't do anything right. That's a bad feeling when the program they picked in college is what they intend to base their future around.

If ever students have doubts about their abilities, a discouraging teacher will send them away feeling self-conscious and negative.

Students need encouragement, especially from teachers!

I realize that dealing with so many students on a daily basis must be stressful, but if most teachers can handle it so well, maybe those who can't shouldn't be teaching.

If you are a teacher who discourages students like this, please realize you may be seriously damaging someone's self-esteem and someone's dreams.

When students get discouraged, it takes a lot to make them feel confident again. It truly leaves an impact on their lives.

Discouraged students will give up; encouraged ones will believe in themselves and strive to succeed at whatever they attempt.

Organization avoids stress



By MIRANDA HUBBS
Staff Writer

So much to do . . . so little time.

Everyone goes through it once in while: one week you have a lot of spare time, the next week you're so busy it sets your head a spinnin'.

In the last few weeks I haven't had time to do anything socially. My schedule is driving me nuts. College can do that to you, but there is one thing I have finally got the hang of: time management.

It is so important that you organize your time effectively or you will end up forgetting something. In college, or even real life, that is not good.

I am finally in the habit of organizing my time a lot better. This year things have become much busier and I have found out the hard way that procrastination really is the killer of time.

For all of you other procrastinators, here are a few ideas on how to organize your time better and avoid going nuts.

First of all, don't procrastinate. When you get an

assignment, do it right away. I don't care if it's not due for two months, start now. Putting it off only stresses you out when the due date gets closer.

Second, space things out. Don't try to cram everything all into one day. Work on things one at a time, so you can concentrate on one thing and do a better job.

Next, use a checklist. If you have a lot to do, write each task down and check it off as you get it done. This helps you to remember what you have and haven't done. Trying to remember everything at once only ends up making you forget something else. Not everyone has a great memory.

Finally, schedule in some fun time. Join a team or find some extracurricular activity. All work and no play is not healthy, but neither is too much play!

I am finally getting in the habit of organizing my time a lot better.

I find that playing basketball after school helps me to relax and let out the built-up stress so I can concentrate better on my studies. It also allows my mind to be distracted for a little while so I don't give myself a headache from thinking about everything I have to do.

Time can either be your friend or your enemy depending on how you handle it. These tips are what you can use to make it your friend.

Get information from Learning Resource Centre



By JENNIFER MAGO
Staff Writer

Now that it's November, the stress of essays and assignments is here.

I recently went down to the Niagara College Learning Resource Centre (LRC) to search through their databases. I had brainstormed some ideas for my essay assignment and then went to the LRC to read a bit about each on the databases.

In the databases are periodicals, texts, magazines and all sorts of other sources that allowed me to read about what I was considering before starting my assignments.

Now I know what most interests me and has the most information in that location.

I was able to print what I wanted at the LRC to take home to read later.

The people at the LRC are helpful and know what they're doing.

I don't think students take advantage of the LRC as much as they probably should. If you have an upcoming essay or assignment, I suggest that you go check the databases out before starting. The people at the LRC are helpful and know what they're doing, and the databases are a great source of information.



Letter to the Editor



College president invites students to help with food drive

Dear Editor:

On behalf of the Student Administrative Council (SAC), I invite you to join your colleagues in helping to make the 1999-2000 annual food drive another success.

The first Food for Friends food drive took place in 1994 under the leadership of Larry Cote, a (now-retired) School of Business faculty member.

The annual food drive has since been supplemented by the Needy Student Fund, an Ontario Public Service Employees' Union (OPSEU) Local 242 initiated resource for needy students on behalf of its retirees and faculty members who have left the college.

Both the Food for Friends food drive and the Needy Student fund have received generous donations from staff and various groups including OPSEU 242, OPSEU Local

243, the Niagara Administration Staff Association, and specific program areas such as Social Service Worker and Human Resources programs.

The Food for Friends food drive and the Needy Student Fund are excellent examples of how our college community works together for the good of the student.

It's hard to imagine in this day and age that college students are impoverished enough to seek food from a food bank. Some of our students do, on a regular basis, and many of our own food drive recipients are single-student parents struggling to make ends meet.

All donations of food are welcome – in particular, cereal, soups, cans of meat, juices, peanut butter, pastas and sauces, along with comfort food like tea, cookies, crackers, jam, and leftover Halloween candy. Personal hygiene items

like shampoos (trial size and samples are perfect), Kleenex, toothpaste and soaps are also appreciated.

As departments and divisions begin staff holiday planning, you may want to consider activities related to fund (or food) raising that will benefit the Food for Friends campaign.

The student you help may be the one sitting in front of you!

Watch for the brightly coloured drop-off boxes in the college hallways.

For further information, please contact any of the SAC members at your campus.

**Dan Patterson, president
Brigitte Chiki, director, Student Services**

COMMENTARY

Determined student searches for job



By **JAMIE WHITE**
Staff Writer

I've been living in Welland for almost three months and have spent endless hours canvassing the city handing out résumé after résumé, filling out application after application searching for employment.

So far, no success. What I want to know is this — what's wrong with me?

I've been everywhere and tried everything. I smile when confronting management staff. I speak clearly and concisely, ideally conveying that I am an educated individual. I try my best to conduct myself in a professional manner. I ooze with enthusiasm and try to show profound interest in each and every place I apply. I act as though working in the fast-food restaurants and stores I've applied to is my life-long dream. I do everything I can think of to impress the employers and show them that I really want to work for them and can benefit the company in many ways.

Really, I just need a job.

I've had a couple of interviews but that is as far as I've got. Are people just not hiring? Am I doing something wrong? Is competition just too strong? I do recognize Welland is a college town and employers have hundreds of college students to choose from.

I have the experience most employers look for. Almost every job I've ever done has involved handling cash and dealing with the public.

I've worked for a well-known fast-food chain, McDonald's, where, as an employee, you are constantly being observed, evaluated and graded. It's a place where there are endless policies to remember and a proper order in which to do everything.

I've worked my hands to the bone, almost literally, in a truck stop restaurant where waiting tables was only the beginning of my grueling duties. I've done piles and piles of dirty dishes for hours on end — and I mean dirty dishes. I'm talking about dishes covered in dried egg yolks, with at least two inches of bacon grease, and so dirty I think they may never come clean again.

I've washed pots big enough to boil me in, pots with layers of potatoes burned so badly to the

bottom that I believed they had become a permanent addition to the stainless steel.

I've scraped thick grease from the tiles under a fry vat and I've lugged bags of dripping, smelly garbage to the curb. I've scrubbed floors, windows, chairs, tables and toilets. I've cleaned up bathrooms drowning in overflow from the toilets and bailed the stock room out of a spring thaw flood.

I've worked for a newspaper where, as a student and youngest employee, my job was to walk the streets of my home town in the bitter cold of winter, the heat of the summer, in rain or shine, in snow or the windiest of winds, asking person after person to be a part of my weekly street-beat column. My editor used to hand me a camera and say, "Don't come back until you have six people."

I'll tell you, this street beat column was quite humorous. I had to make up silly and insignificant questions to ask the public and get their opinions. In a small town where everyone reads the newspaper, finding six people a week to answer a silly question and have their picture taken, to be printed on the newspaper's third page, is harder than you may think.

I've even sweated it out in a steel-manufacturing factory, a

place where it is unavoidable to be covered in grease. As soon as I walked through the doors a wall of heat and grease hit me. The grease was in my hair and in my eyes. I breathed it in and it soaked into every pore of my body. I could grit it in my teeth and I could have sneezed it out of my nose.

This was a job where I worked 12-hour shifts, days and nights, doing manual labour. I climbed into the darkest, dirtiest of pits and lifted pieces of scrap steel over my head and into a bin for disposal. This was a job where I was in constant danger from the many deadly machines I worked with. I was required to put razor sharp strapping around huge rolls of steel that could run me over and leave nothing but a pile of mush.

Possibly the most difficult part of this job was concentrating and trying to stay alert at 3:30 a.m. when my eyes were drooping and I couldn't think of anything other than the second hand on the clock ticking in slow motion, marking the eternity until quitting time.

My point? I'm not unaccustomed to hard work.

No, I'm not trying to portray myself as some wonder woman or renaissance girl. I'm just trying to express that I'm a good

worker, a dedicated individual who would do my best to please anyone who would be kind enough to hire me. I'm honest, trustworthy and reliable. I never skip shifts and have been only a little late to work maybe twice since I started working at age 15.

My mom says to be persistent and keep going back to each place, so I have. I'm beginning to wonder if some places only have applications on file filled out by me.

I've scrimped and saved and tried to make what little money I had stretch, but at last it has run out.

I'm broke. I'm broke. I'm broke. I have something like 14 cents in my savings account. I don't qualify for the Ontario Student Assistance Program and I can't afford to get involved with a bank loan. My parents have been buying groceries for me and helping me out as much as possible but how much more can I ask of them? I need a job.

I'm just thankful that I had the foresight to pay all my rent up front or I'd find myself homeless as well.

I'm not asking for sympathy or pity, just a little empathy. If anyone who reads this is in a position to hire employees and I come to your business begging for a job, give me a break and give me a try.

Desires far from reach



By **JENNIFER ATANAS**
Staff Writer

Isn't it cruel when the things you so badly desire in life sometimes are not within your reach?

It has become apparent to me at this time in my life that the things you really want, you often can't have.

Come on, we have all fallen into this trap. You see something that looks pretty good, but guess what? You can't touch.

Too often everything we lay our eyes on have signs that read: Do Not Touch or Sold.

I'm sounding materialistic and selfish, but these things I speak of, they're not always found in stores and, technically, they're not for sale.

I enjoy using a metaphor to

give a mental picture of a recurring dilemma that may present itself in many lives.

Everything we lay our eyes on have signs that read: Do Not Touch or Sold.

Think of the best ice cream with all the works: cherries, whipped cream and syrup. It's sitting in front of you, but the spoon is on the other side of the table, being used by someone else.

My main point is this: it is undoubtedly tortuous when we can't help but almost fall in love with something that is a dream.

Dreams do crazy things, but they can almost take you away to a place where there is an extensive amount of ice cream, and all the spoons have your name on them.

Students receive ERSN awards



Two graduates of the Educational Resources and Special Needs program (ERSN) received awards for being at the top of their class. From left, Janet Potts, of St. Catharines, who received the ERSN Advisory Committee award, Pat Frank, co-ordinator of the program, and Ursula Kowcun, of Thorold, who received the Elvira Lucas ERSN Faculty award.

Photo by Mark Garrett

**CHECK OUT THE
NEXT EDITION OF
THE NIAGARA NEWS
DEC. 10
YOU CAN PICK IT
UP ALL AROUND
THE SCHOOL**

A Salute to Professionals

The faculty of the Journalism-Print program extends a huge thank you to this week's Niagara News production crews. The second-year students exemplified true professionalism, going beyond the call of duty by working extra hours as they produced this edition, following a day-long power failure at the Welland campus Wednesday.

Good Job!

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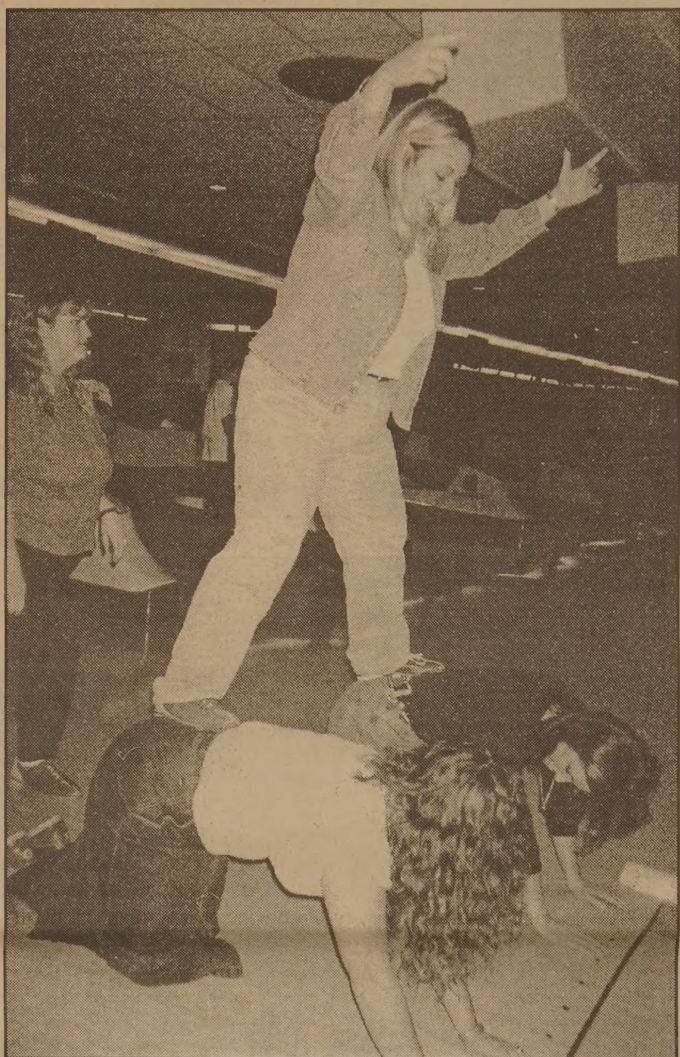
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SPIRIT OF GIVING

Ontario March of Dimes bowls it up



Alyson Caskenette, 20, stands on top of two participants in display of their creative bowling techniques.

Photo by Shannon Palomaki

By SHANNON PALOMAKI
Staff Writer

It's a strike in support of physically disabled adults' independence.

Over \$7,000 has been raised in the third annual Bowl-a-Rama benefiting the Ontario March of Dimes Nov. 6.

Eighty-four bowlers joined forces at the Ramada Parkway lanes in St. Catharines, including staff, family and friends for an afternoon of bowling, a silent auction and a full buffet dinner.

Each participant was expected to raise at least \$50 in order to play.

Prizes were awarded for the top three fundraisers. Tiffany McKeown, who collected \$1,002 in pledges, won a Sony 200 disk CD player. A Saturday night escape at the Ramada Parkway Hotel including a Jacuzzi suite with a fireplace and brunch for two, was won by Cindy Papineau for raising \$480. Charity Crowder won a Surprise Theatre Lover's entertainment package, including dinner at the Port Mansion Theatre in Port Dalhousie, two tickets to the Shaw Festival and a horse and buggy tour in Niagara-on-the-Lake, for raising \$373.

Twenty-two participants who each raised over \$100 in pledges received a bottle of wine as well as a gift certificate for a dinner or brunch.

The money will be used "to assist adults with physical disabilities to lead more meaningful and independent lives by helping to acquire equipment, education, employment and attendant ser-

vices," said Diana Burse, data entry clerk of Thorold — South Region Office, who along with Cathy Stirland, team leader of the Ridley Terrace program, organized the event.

The first round of bowling was played normally. In the second round, bowlers played using their wrong hand and every other frame was played backwards. The final set was played with black lights, otherwise known as "glow in the dark" bowling.

The silent auction had 53 items donated by companies, including

"The Niagara Region is so wonderful. We have a pretty good support system here," Burse said, of the 150 companies that contributed.

Alyson Caskenette, an attendant of the Ridley Terrace program, said the "event was a success. The spirit and dedication of the workers and clients was an amazing thing to be a part of."

The Ontario March of Dimes began almost 50 years ago as The Dimes to find a cure for polio as mothers marched in their neighbourhoods collecting money in support of research.

The Ontario March of Dimes in the Niagara Region has four supportive housing and outreach programs that give independence to adults with physical disabilities: Faith Lutheran Villa, Ridley Terrace, and Scott Street, all of which are located in St. Catharines, and Stamford Kiwanis Manor in Niagara Falls.

Prince Charles, which is run out of the Thorold office, has an outreach program for the disabled in the Welland and the Port Colborne area, including students who need assistance at Brock University and Niagara College.

Each program is designated for certain areas of the region ranging from Grimsby to Fort Erie.

Stirland said that she did not want "to single out any one person" for the positive outcome of the whole event. "A lot of people were instrumental" in finding donations and helping out.

*'Niagara Region
is so wonderful.
We have a pretty
good support
system here.'*

— Diana Burse

Shopper's Drug Mart, Inniskillin Wines, A & P Super Fresh, Niagara Credit Union Ltd., Artistic Impressions Tattooing and 97.7 HITZ FM.

There were another 100 prizes donated including bottles of wine, brunch and other gift certificates for bowlers.

Medieval fund-raiser for cause and experience

By LISA TAFT
Staff Writer

Wizards, wenches, knights and peasants came together to raise money for a St. Catharines hospital.

Niagara College's Culinary Management program students at the Maid of the Mist Centre in Niagara Falls served a \$165-a-plate medieval menu at the fund-raiser held on Nov. 6 in the Great Hall at Ridley College.

The St. Catharines General Hospital Foundation organized the event. The medieval dinner and auction raised nearly \$50,000.

Culinary Management program instructors David Gibson and Mary Moore, both chefs, worked with Sandra Wilkes, executive director of the St. Catharines General Hospital Foundation, to plan the fund-raiser attended by about 180 guests.

"It takes anywhere from nine months to a year to plan," said Moore, adding, the medieval theme "was David (Gibson's) idea. He's been wanting to do it for a long time."

Gibson, who raises birds of prey as a hobby, stood in front of the Great Hall greeting people with his falcon, Squirt.

Volunteer students worked in the kitchen of the Great Hall preparing the medieval menu that included viandbruse, roasted salmon fillets and boneless loin of piggies. Elderflower cheesecake was one of the many splendours offered for desert.

The students began preparing for the dinner in the afternoon and were expecting to stay until at least midnight.

The kitchen at Ridley College was new to most of the students, but "you get used to it quickly," said Eddy Thompson, 20, a second-year Culinary Management program student. "The work gets spread out and we help each other wherever we can."

"It's easy to find (student) volunteers for fund-raisers like this," said Moore, adding the students do it for the cause and the experience. She said students don't get extra marks for volunteering.

The medieval dinner wasn't the first fund-raiser at which students from Niagara have helped. Others include the Big Hearts, Little Hearts fund-raiser for the prenatal ward and the MRI machine for the St. Catharines General Hospital.



Clockwise from the back, first-year Culinary Management program students Stephane Auld, 29, Rob McCartney, 26, Dan Huffman, 19, and Jerome Couroux, 29, prepare pomegranates to be served with cheese at the medieval fund-raising dinner held at Ridley College in St. Catharines on Nov. 6.

Photo by Lisa Taft



How do you say "party" in another language?

1 - Jonathan Cvallo, 18, Alexander Sosa, 17, Sharon Breton, 17, and Carlos Aguilar, 27, show off their Mexican fashion.

2 - David Seto, Student Administrative Council vice-president of campus events, tries some Korean cuisine with Sumi Hwang, 18.

3 - Ximena Nieto, 19, and Karen Castaneda, 21, both English as a Second Language students, display visuals of Colombia.

4 - Diego Alvarez, 27 and Delvalle Sanabria, 27, dance to the tunes of International Day.

5 - Emiko, 24, and Jaekun Kim 24, write students' names in Japanese and Korean.



ABOVE - International students hard at work and taking time to relax (top).



6 - Mami Sagata, an ESL program student from Japan, demonstrates calligraphy.

7 - Nancy Spada, a teacher for international students, plays a Japanese game called Fuku Warai.

8 - Interesting artifacts on display.



David Seto, SAC vice-president of campus events, presents a plaque to Jisun Hyun, student, Susan Vandenboom, co-ordinator for the ESL program, and Kieko Yokota, student.

Photos by : Robert Lapensée
Jamie McIntosh
Jason Vizbulis

WOMEN'S ISSUES

Journey to self-destruction intervened by God

By PENNI LAFLEUR
Staff Writer

For more than 16 years, Maureen Detlor ravaged her body in a desperate attempt to improve her self-image. Her search for self-acceptance led her into a battle with bulimia.

While on her journey to self-destruction, she says "something" made her hang in long enough to realize the answer to her problem had to come from within.

Six years ago, at a most unexpected time, a "life-altering event" took place that literally saved her life. How it changed her life is what she wants to share with others.

Detlor, 41, of Niagara Falls, is a machine operator at General Motors in St. Catharines. She has been employed there for 23 years, having started when she was 18. She is married with two sons — Mathew, 17, and Michael, 14.

Her hobbies include crafts "when I have time" and "God, plain and simple."

After giving birth to her second son, Detlor says, she had a difficult time losing the weight she gained during her pregnancy. She says going to the gym "diligently" and trying to control her food intake just wasn't working. That's when she turned to her doctor for help.

She says her doctor prescribed diuretics, but after a short period of time she found they weren't really working and she felt "sluggish" all the time. She says that's when the trouble started.

"I was talking to someone at work that offered me some pills and simply said, 'Try these.' I didn't know it at the time but I was taking beans. Health food stores sell something similar to beans called bronchial dilators. No matter which one you take, they are both addictive. My energy level didn't increase, so I increased the dosage."

A side effect of diuretics is constipation, so, she says, she started taking laxatives. She says she tried natural laxatives and over time had to increase the number of those. At the end of 13 years, Detlor says, she was taking "36 beans and 16 laxatives a day to exist."

"Basically, everything was shutting down on the inside of me because everything was so out of whack. Between beans and laxatives and the diuretics, I was taking enough to kill a horse. It was a vicious circle."

Detlor says as a child she suffered abuse by other children because she was "heavy." Although she was well aware of the danger she had put herself in, she says, she felt the benefits of the weight loss outweighed the consequences. The positive attention she was getting "made it all worthwhile."

"I've been on every crazy diet there is, so when I did lose the weight I thought it was great. People were telling Bob, my husband, how good his wife looked, so he didn't want me to gain the weight back."

She says her husband was unaware of what she was doing to herself, but her mother, "as mothers often do," sensed something was wrong.

"My mother suspected when I was really thin because it wasn't the way I was my whole life. I kept telling her, 'There's no problem, there's no problem.'"

She says that it was not long afterwards she realized that she had lost control of her life, adding she was having panic attacks and at times "felt suicidal."

"I was miserable, miserable. Up with the beans and then down crashing. It must have been horrible for both my kids and my husband."

She says she would call her husband home from work because she thought she had overdosed. She says she knew she "needed and wanted help."

"So finally I was going to psychic mediums, searching that way for some kind of control over my life, some way to feel better about myself because I was so out of control," she admits. "At all costs I didn't want to get off that stuff and yet I did."

She says she was fearful of rejection. She was afraid her



MAUREEN DETLOR

husband wouldn't like her anymore if she put the weight back on, she says, adding she was in a struggle with herself and yet she didn't know how to help herself.

"One night I was desperate. The psychic mediums weren't doing it for me. I was very interested in them, but that's because of a generational interest. It was something that had been passed down from generation to generation. It's not a good thing; it's a curse."

'I don't feel as insecure as I used to. I don't feel lonely anymore because I know I can talk to God.'

"My mother told me to be careful with psychics and it was wrong to go to them, but I had never seen anything to say that it was wrong."

Detlor says one night, while at work, she became so desperate she cried out on her job, "God, if you're there, show me what I am doing is wrong!"

She says one particular Christian, near her work area, leaves his Bible out in the open for all to see. She says that night she asked to borrow it and ran into the ladies' washroom.

"My mother had told me once or twice that if things get really bad to pick up a Bible and open it up. Wherever you open it to will be your answer."

"So I borrowed his book and opened it up to Timothy 4:1. It said, 'The Holy Spirit distinctly and expressly declares that in latter times some will turn away from the faith giving attention to deluding spirits and doctrines that demons teach.' That's what mediums are dealing with," she explained.

She says when she read it she knew it was her answer.

"The Bible says we have 'spiritual eyes.' We have eyes

covered with scales, but when God calls us, it's up to us whether we answer that call," she says. "I felt my eyes were opened at that point and I felt, without a doubt, that God had answered my question and I thanked Him for it."

She says the healing process was something she will never forget.

"I felt peace go through me. Something so spiritual had happened that I didn't realize what it was, but I felt almost cleansed—cleansed of the anxiety, of the searching and the fear. Everything was gone."

"I thanked God for giving me the answer. Then starting from my feet right up to the top of me I was, like, electrified, filled with joy."

She says she went bouncing out of that washroom and began calling everyone she knew, telling them she had "found the answer."

"I didn't realize what had happened to me because I had never read the Bible before. I had looked at it, but said, 'I can't understand this stuff. How can anybody understand this?'"

"King James is hard to understand, but the Bible says that unless you are 'born again' you will not understand the word of God, and that is for a reason."

She says she returned the Bible to her co-worker and months later through conversation with him had come to realize that through her experience she was now born again. She says he encouraged her to attend his church to understand her relationship with God. She says after a series of healing services and miracles she received, she fully accepted God's ways into her life and vowed to serve Him.

Ever since "that day" there has never been a dull day, she says. Coincidences she would have thought before "are not coincidence," she says. "Things happen for a reason."

"When I opened up the Bible that one day it had to be a miracle in itself because I wouldn't touch the Bible before. Miracles happen all the time."

Detlor says she studies the Bible every day and takes it everywhere she goes. At work she reads it on her breaks.

She says in the Bible God says, "Go into all the world and preach the good news to every creature. And he who believes, who adheres to Jesus, will be saved from the penalty of eternal death, but he who does not believe in, trust in or rely in Jesus will be condemned. And these signs will accompany those who believe in My name; they will drive out demons; they shall speak with new tongues. They shall take up serpents and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover."

Detlor says her life has purpose, meaning and fulfilment with "peace, joy and love."

Reflecting back on the difference that Jesus has made on her life, Detlor says she has more self-confidence.

"I don't feel as insecure as I used to. I don't feel lonely anymore because I know I can talk to God. I'm more content."

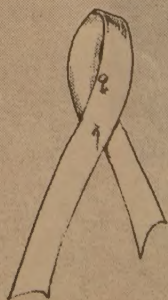
What does all this mean and what, she says, did she find on her journey to self-preservation? "The bottom-line — in wanting to be loved and wanting to belong — a Christian has to read the Word of God. It is health to the flesh. Meditate on the Word and you will be successful."

Detlor says she recommends everyone should read the Bible "in order to grow spiritually." She laughs and says she doesn't read the newspapers. "It's old news anyway."

"Earthly knowledge is foolishness to God compared to spiritual knowledge. God says, 'My children are destroyed through lack of (spiritual) knowledge.'"

Detlor says not only is she able to love and accept herself now, but she's found her "purpose in life."

She says the most important message she wants to get across is that "God loves people, no matter what they've done. His is the greatest unconditional love you'll ever know, and He'll fill every void in your life if you let Him."



White Ribbon Campaign Pancake Breakfast

Help End Violence Against Women

Monday, Dec. 6, 1999 7:30 a.m. Welland Campus Student Centre

Niagara College \$5

Tickets available in SAC Offices, M-18, SE-104

IN DEPTH

Violence escalates, who is at fault?



By SHANNON
PALOMAKI
Staff Writer

The fact that a bullet was shot didn't seem to stun anyone; it was as if this was a normal part of our schedule in life.

Moving to Toronto from what I considered to be a rural high school in St. Catharines in Grade 10 was a big environmental change. I had to take the subway and pass strangers along the way instead of the comfortable banana bus, in which the faces were all familiar.

Near the end of the last term, something happened that made me come back.

An armed man walked into the front foyer of the school and shot

two times at the window that led to the front office.

The bullets didn't hit anyone, but that day any student or faculty member could have been a victim of crime.

This is not to say that crime does not happen in cities like St. Catharines. One of the most notorious crime cases in recent history occurred in my hometown.

More and more, violence within the schools seems to be rising, or perhaps the number of crimes against peers seem to be increasing.

The question is how one human being can be capable of striking another person with bare hands.

Years ago, kids were in trouble for chewing gum or wearing hats in school. Today, schools are equipped with video cameras and metal detectors in search of guns and weapons.

For instance, take the case in which 15-year-old Dmitri

(Matthew) Baranovski was sitting at a park picnic table with some friends and was approached by a group of older children in North York recently.

Baranovski wanted to know why these children were bothering him and his friends. A "gang" of kids took a pack of cigarettes, tried to take some money, and then they beat him.

This happened in a North York park by six to 10 youths who got Baranovski to the ground and threw kicks and punches. Sadly, Baranovski died at the hands of his attackers. This was Toronto's 44th homicide.

No more than two days earlier a 17-year-old teen was stabbed, suffering a punctured lung. This happened almost 10 kilometres from where Baranovski was killed.

Everyone looks for an answer as to why these incidents occur. As well, they look for someone to

blame.

Is it the fault of society? How many people stood by and watched Baranovski get beaten up? Were there residents in the area that just peered out their window, ignoring the fact someone might be hurt?

Is the justice system too lenient? Punishment for children under the Young Offenders Act merely is a

Do parents of violent teens need to be taught how to raise a child properly? Maybe social services should look into how a violent child is raised and by whom.

Considering that most children spend the majority of their time in school, getting an education, should we look into how the schools are teaching and how qualified these people are? Should there be stricter penalties for disobedient children?

Are media outlets teaching children that if you die, as in video games and movies, you are given another life? Are they saying that causing pain to another person is okay?

The fact is that violence among children is intensifying. Are we to look to a future of war among teenagers where they will have a hold on swords, rifles or grenades?

It's time everyone took a stand against violence because our children are the future of the world.

Baranovski died at the hands of his attackers. This was Toronto's 44th homicide.

slap on the wrist, and they are cleared of their offences when they turn 18 years old.

White ribbons aid victims of violence

By PENNI LAFLEUR
Staff Writer

The White Ribbon Campaign kicked off at Niagara College yesterday and will continue until Dec. 6.

The Student Administrative Council (SAC) at all three campuses will be giving out white ribbons to wear as a symbol of advocacy against violence against women.

The most significant day of the campaign is Dec. 6. It marks the 10th anniversary of the Montreal massacre in which 14 women were killed during the rampage of a gunman, Mark Lepine at École Polytechnique de Montréal.

To commemorate the deaths of these female university students, SAC will be hosting a breakfast at the student centre in After Hours on Dec. 6.

Jen Beatty, SAC president at the Welland campus, says the campaign is designed to increase aware-

ness about violence against women.

"We have arranged for (Welland) Mayor (Dick) Reuter to be a guest speaker at the breakfast and have sought support from other men in the community. Design for a New Tomorrow will also be sending a guest speaker to attend the breakfast."

Design for a New Tomorrow, in St. Catharines, offers one-on-one counselling service for women of verbal, physical, emotional or sexual abuse. They also offer a 10-week counselling program for abusive men seeking help.

The 7:30 a.m. breakfast will include pancakes, juice and coffee for \$5. Tickets can be purchased at the Welland campus from Brigitte Chiki in room SE-104 or Ray Sarkis in room M-18, from the United Way office or from the SAC office.

All proceeds will go towards Women's Place, a shelter for female victims of violence.

War declared on squeegee kids

If passed, new law could put squeegee kids in jail

By PENNI LAFLEUR
Staff Writer

OTTAWA — The traffic light turns red and it's time to get to work. She has precious little time to make as much money as she can. She asks before she approaches a car by raising her squeegee and waiting for the nod from the driver. Her boyfriend is ahead of her in a frantic hurry to get as many cars done as he can before the light turns green again and they can rest. He even asks passing pedestrians if they have any spare change. "No? OK, thanks anyway."

Jennifer, 25, (who would not give her last name) has been working on the streets of Ottawa for two months. She says she had a son when she was 17 and he is living with her sister. She says she is just trying to survive.

It's getting cold outside. It's colder standing still though than moving around. The provincial government has just declared war on the squeegee kids.

Determined to get squeegee kids and aggressive beggars off the big-city streets, Ontario Attorney General Jim Flaherty has

Repeat offenders could pay as much as \$1,000 or spend six months in jail.

The Opposition claims it would do nothing more than force enterprising street kids into a life of crime.

In contrast anti-poverty groups

horrible. We are not begging or stealing. We are working."

The boyfriend is still screaming at her to be paid for her time. She keeps telling him she has been and is determined to finish the interview. "The world sucks because



Squeegee kid, Jennifer, hustles to make her living between green lights in downtown Ottawa.

Photo by Leigh Beihl

'The world sucks because of people like Mike Harris.'

tabled his Safe Streets Act.

If passed, the act will give police the power to get them off the streets. The bill will make aggressive begging a provincial offence under the Highway Traffic Act. Offenders would be subject to fines of up to \$500.

in Vancouver and Winnipeg are petitioning courts to strike down already existing bylaws that prohibit panhandling from motorists or restrict place and time.

The light is green again and Jennifer has time to talk. Her boyfriend is screaming at us to pay her for the photo we take of her. She screams back at him, "They did."

She says she's heard about the issue in the Throne Speech. "It's

of people like Mike Harris (premier of Ontario).

"What's a quarter, 50 cents? It all adds up and buys me a pair of shoes and some food."

The light is red, the boyfriend is screaming at her, and she's in a panic. The street corner is busy tonight. The hotel she is working in front of is hosting a black tux and gown gala event, just two blocks up from Parliament Hill in the nation's capital.

BE SAFE WALKING AT NIGHT

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6:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m.

Monday to Thursday

FREE OF CHARGE

PROFILES

Rosy view of college seen by Green

By KYM CRAWFORD
Staff Writer

If this man had a motto, 'carpe diem' would be it.

A professor of broadcasting, Brian Green, 53, of Fenwick, Ont., is always up to something, in the classroom and out.

Green graduated from the University of Guelph with an Honours BA in English.

Although not part of his career plan, he taught high school English for a short period and ended up at Niagara College in 1971.

During this time, Green did some radio work, which aided in the switch from the English department to the Broadcasting — Radio, Television and Film (BRTF) department.

Although Green says he enjoyed teaching English, it can be "a thankless and frustrating job."

Green says he has "nothing but admiration" for English teachers because not everybody wants to take English courses, and "it's more difficult to actually see a student's progression throughout the year."

Green teaches broadcast journalism and current events in the BRTF department and says he



BRIAN GREEN

prefers these subjects. "The faculty is very knowledgeable and skilful. There is a chemistry, both professionally and personally."

Another reason for Green's preference is that "there isn't the same resistance for current events as there is for English from students."

Green says he'd like to use the Internet more as a teaching tool and would prefer smaller class sizes for discussion.

Although Green says he enjoys teaching, he has been wrestling

with how long he will continue, not because he doesn't want to, but because he has many other projects that he would like to work on. He adds he would like to travel through Europe while writing a novel in the next five years.

In addition to teaching, Green writes textbooks "that are in constant need of revision," and dabbles in writing fiction.

Outside the classroom, Green is somewhat of an outdoorsman. His hobbies include flyfishing, canoeing, hiking and photography.

Green says he enjoys travelling, especially across Europe and Canada.

Green has travelled to China, where he had the opportunity, offered by the college, to teach North American television writing and production skills to Chinese students at a college in Chang-Sha. He and Keith Lindburg, the former head of the audio-visual department at Niagara College, were chosen for the 10-week task that included a two-week documentary

shoot in remote China.

Green says most of the residents in the region had never seen Westerners before, so he was sur-

'... hope to have, in some way, inspired students to pursue some of the things I've introduced them to.'

—Brian Green

prised at how welcoming, fun and accommodating they were. "The two-week documentary was the highlight of the trip."

"The only downside to the trip was the living conditions," says Green, "but it didn't bother me that much because I enjoy the outdoors and don't mind roughing it."

If Green won a \$1 million, he says he would buy two vacation properties, "one in France and one in Northern Ontario, after I've paid all my bills," he chuckles.

For the coming millennium, Green has no specific plans. "Just a quiet night in," he says, "with the yearly resolutions."

Green says he is "very happy" with what he's done so far in life, but hopes to publish some of his fictional works.

As far as teaching goes, Green says he "hopes to have, in some way, inspired students to pursue some of the things I've introduced them to. For example, a broadcast journalism student who is suited for it, or interested, should pursue it."

For now, Green can still be found in a classroom, but for how long remains unknown, even to him. When the time does come, Green says, he will miss teaching. "I look forward to meeting the

'I look forward to meeting the new students every September.'

—Brian Green

new students every September." Green's enthusiasm, friendly disposition and inquisitive nature came into play when he turned the tables and asked, "Where do you see yourself in five years?"

That would be a different story.

Anniversary approaches for program co-ordinator

By JENNIFER ATANAS
Staff Writer

To be regarded as being fair is the greatest compliment she could ever receive, said Phyllis Barnatt, 44, of Fort Erie.

On Sept. 20, 2000, Barnatt will be celebrating 10 years at Niagara College. She is the co-ordinator and a professor in the Journalism — Print program at the Welland campus. Although 10 years may be regarded by some as a reason to celebrate, Barnatt recognizes it as "just another day at the office, full of adventure."

This adventure however, did not begin at the college. As a young child, Barnatt said she was "always oriented to words" adding she "likes to write" so she decided to pursue her dreams.

Her mother was employed by the Fort Erie Times-Review, a local weekly newspaper, as a proofreader. Barnatt said she'd always take her and her brothers to work. "We grew up with printers around us."

From 1974 to 1978 Barnatt attended Brock University in St. Catharines, earning an Honours BA in politics. Having "enjoyed" politics there, she said she knew she wanted to become a political reporter. Always geared towards journalism, Barnatt enrolled in the Journalism-Print program at Niagara College in 1978. At Niagara she received academic credit for her first year and was given direct entry to second year.

While pursuing her dreams, Barnatt said her parents were "very supportive."

"They always encouraged me to be curious." As a result of the financial sacrifices her parents made for her, Barnatt said, "You can appreciate things a lot more."

After completing her academic studies, Barnatt was employed by the Fort Erie Times-Review. During the next 11 years there was never a time when she said she thought this career was not for her, adding, she "thoroughly enjoyed it." Barnatt began

as a reporter and, in time, became the managing editor of the paper. Being managing editor, however, did not give her "a lot of opportunity to write," she said. Her co-workers at the Review were "quite a team," said Barnatt.

"They became like family. We are all still friends."

Barnatt said she began working at the college in September 1990 in order to expand her learning.

"I had gotten as high in the newspaper organization as I could go." She said she wanted to remain in the journalism field so she

applied for the position of professor in the

second-year Journalism-Print program

Over the years here, Barnatt said the curriculum has gone through many changes. One of her

first goals was to make the course more a reflection of a newsroom and operate as such, said Barnatt.

After her first five years at the college, specialty course options, which would be beneficial when working with papers, were

introduced, Barnatt said. The most significant change, for which she is "extremely grateful," is the introduction of full layout and design pagination, adding the changes were a "long process."

"Because of the hands-on training, it will

open doors career-wise much more quickly." Barnatt said, "Technology is changing," and the new use of digital photography in the program is "partially driven by industry."

Along with enjoying the changes over the years, Barnatt said she enjoys the group of individuals who "make a good team."

Her co-workers are faculty members Gary Erb, Jhim Burwell, Ron Crowley, Paul Dayboll and Nancy Geddie.

She said it is a "pleasure" working with these people because they bring

a balance of skills to the program.

In 10 more years, Barnatt said, it would be "really fun" to see Niagara News, the program's tabloid-sized newspaper, taken to a fully interactive Internet newspaper.

Over the years, Barnatt said, she has enjoyed all aspects of her career, but most of all the people who have allowed her into their lives.

"I am most appreciative of the people who have shared their lives with me." She said she is "intrigued" with how gracious

they are to let journalists into their lives and then allow journalists to tell others about it. "Their successes were interesting."

As a teacher, she said she enjoys interacting with students, despite the occasional frustration. The best thing is when a student realizes, she said, "They can do it."

"The greatest satisfaction is seeing students discover their own strengths, self-confidence and their own abilities."

Barnatt, who treats her students as reporters, said when they graduate she tells them they are now her teachers.

She "learns daily," continues to write and stays connected in the journalism field. She has been a freelance writer for several years and has written articles for What's Up Kids magazine, covers Fort Erie council for the Niagara Falls Review and has handled public relations for the Fort Erie branch of the Canadian Cancer Society.

In life, Barnatt said, she realizes "everyone has their moments," but she tries to be "very positive." Learning as much as she can about a situation has helped her to overcome struggles in her life.

"A problem usually doesn't go away; it just gets bigger." She said the benefit of knowing she has that day keeps her going.

A breast cancer survivor, Barnatt said, "Every day is a bonus."

"It is a fascinating time to be in the communication industry," said Barnatt, adding

that in 10 more years she still sees herself in the industry. "I just don't know what vehicle that will be."

"Every day is interesting because I am curious."

Every day is a "learning experience."



PHYLLIS BARNATT

'... satisfaction is seeing students discover their own strengths ...'

—Phyllis Barnatt

'Every day is a learning experience.'

—Phyllis Barnatt

INTERNATIONAL DAY

Students enjoy food, fun at cultural event



From left, Masato Nishiguchi, 23, Kae Ichiba, 23, Mami Sagata, 24, all from Japan, and Fiona Shen from Taiwan, demonstrated calligraphy on International Day.

Photo by Natsuko Tamura

International Day provides an opportunity to learn about other cultures around the world

By NATSUKO TAMURA
Staff Writer

International students interacted with Canadians in a variety of cultural activities during the annual International Day at Niagara College's Welland campus on Nov. 17.

The cultural activities attracted many people to the Simcoe building to have their name written in five languages. Other activities included Chinese horoscopes, Korean traditional dress, chopsticks, Japanese origami, calligraphy and Latin dancing.

"It turned out very well," said Mieko Yokota, an organizer of the event. She is a student in the Special Event Management (Post-graduate) program.

She said many more people showed up than she expected, and the English as a Second Language program students did a "great" job.

The centre of attention was name writing, where people could have their name written in five languages including Japanese, Korean, Taiwanese, Chinese and Arabic. The prepared 400 sheets were gone in three hours.

"It's very interesting," said Bill Marton, 20, after seeing his name in five languages. His friend, Kris Blanchart, 19, said they were a bit nervous to come up and check out the different kinds of booths.

"It's pretty neat," said a student, holding a plate of Korean food and chopsticks.

Mami Sagata, 24, of Japan, was one of the calligraphy writers for the day. She said they wrote Canadians' names or words that they wanted. Japanese students also demonstrated

origami (folding paper) and displayed old toys.

"Some people can do origami very well," said a Japanese student, Chieko Yamabe, 19.

"Many Canadian people are interested in Chinese horoscopes," said Fiona Shen, from Taiwan. She said most of the time Canadians find their horoscopes are true. There are 12 animals representing a person's year of birth, including rabbit, dog, horse, dragon or snake, she explained. Other students played Chinese chess and served tea.

Students from Venezuela prepared finger food and performed Latin dance.

Mexican and Colombian booths

had food tasting as well.

Amanda Brown, 26, from the Educational Resources and Special Needs program, said she did origami and got her name written in the five languages, which she said, was "very" interesting.

"I like talking to people from different countries."

Daniel Elias, from the Computer Programmer program, said he enjoyed the event and suggested the international students hold this activity more often.

Jisun Hyun, of Korea, who organized the event with Yokota, a volunteer worker, said she didn't consider it work since she "really" enjoyed herself.

"I love it."



Ruriko Nagahashi, 26, and Aiko Saito, 20, of Japan, dressed in yukata, a kind of kimono (traditional costume) for summer.

Photo by Natsuko Tamura

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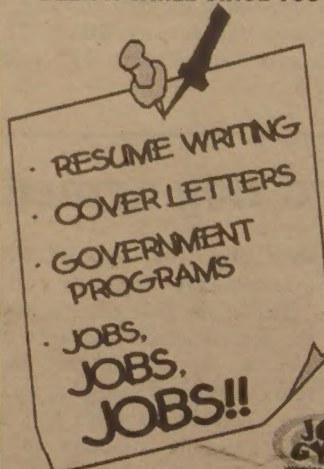
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ENTERTAINMENT

Joint anniversaries celebrated in original dance

New work makes debut at Playhouse

By SAM BAYLY
Staff Writer

The human body is capable of unbelievably graceful and powerful movements only attainable by the determined few.

These few, known as The Toronto Dance Theatre, returned to Brock University's Playhouse in St. Catharines with the premier of a new dance work on Friday, Nov. 10.

"It's a real pleasure to be here," said Christopher House, the company's artistic director, at a 'lobby talk' session held before the performance.

House, 44, of Toronto, was commissioned by Brock University last fall to design a new work commemorating both the Playhouse's and the dance group's 30th anniversaries.

The new work, titled Slipper



Contemporary dance group, The Toronto Dance Theatre, captivates the audience at Brock University's Playhouse by performing five different Canadian dance works including a new dance composed by Christopher House, the group's artistic director.

Garden, was one of five dances performed that evening.

That work will debut in Toronto in November 2000.

Deb Slade, managing director,

said Brock paid \$5,000 for the new work.

The money "goes a long way" as costs can be up to \$30,000 and it "enables dancers to have a

longer season."

The 12-member group performed from 8 p.m. to 10 p.m. with one intermission.

After each performance the 350

audience members applauded and cheers were shouted out at the end of the final piece.

It was "very well done artistically," said Hedy Culver, of St. Catharines, who was at the reception held afterwards. It's "mind boggling how they do it."

The dance company has performed at Brock "more than any other dance company," said Slade. "They were the first dance company we presented in '69," she added.

Brock commissioned the group in 1993 for its 25th anniversaries, when founding member of the group, David Earle was artistic director. Music was by Brock University professor, Peter Landey.

In a media release, the group is described as a "contemporary dance ensemble dedicated to the creation and performance of original Canadian dance works."

The group has been performing since 1968 and has toured across the globe visiting New York, London, Tokyo, Mexico City and Bombay.

They were described by The Globe and Mail on April 15, 1993, as "one of the treasures of Canadian dance."

Photo by Sam Bayly

Annual Halloween party raises funds for student documentaries

By KYM CRAWFORD
Staff Writer

They dressed up and stepped out for a good cause and a chance to win prizes.

The Broadcasting — Radio, Television, and Film (BRTF) program students held their annual Halloween Temple Club event on Friday, Oct. 29, to raise money for student documentaries to be made next semester.

The event was organized by Holly Nichols, 24, of Toronto.

"(It was) one of the most successful turnouts ever," says Sarah Mole, 21, of Hepworth, Ont.

Aside from the chance to rub shoulders with the likes of Audrey Hepburn and the Beastie Boys, there was dancing, drinking and pizza.

Wide Mouth Mason tickets were presented for best costume. The winners were the Beastie Boys, including Jeremy Burch, 21, of Vineland, Davin Snip, of Simcoe, and Dale Bernier, 23, of Blind River, Ont.

Comedy show keeps them laughing

By MARK GARRETT
Staff Writer



Back from a tour in England, Mike Wilmont, 36, touches on controversial topics during his performance at After Hours.

Photo by Mark Garrett

Veteran comedians sparked a laugh fest at After Hours.

The large crowd at After Hours on the Welland campus showed their appreciation for the efforts of the comedians by laughing and cheering loudly on Nov. 10.

Mike Wilmont, 36, says, "It's nice to be back in Canada." He has just completed a tour of England. His sometimes rude dialect and controversial topics captured the college element. His unique philosophy on life echoed throughout the dark After Hours.

While taking shots of liquor on stage, Wilmont discussed sex, his relationship with his wife and physical fitness.

Kenny Robinson, the second performer that night, touched on topics that got mixed reactions from the crowd.

His sex views of "Tina Turner can pee in my mouth anytime" got groans from some of the audience. He repeated his distaste for condoms twice in the evening, and added, "Safe sex used to be not banging a biker's wife."

Robinson has appeared on Open Mike with Mike Bullard and the Gemini's.

Twins and guard dog armed to the teeth in Nintendo 64's Jet Force Gemini

By JAMIE MCINTOSH
Staff Writer

Rare's much-hyped Jet Force Gemini should be a hit with shooter and adventure fans alike.

The game for the Nintendo 64 (N64) allows you to control at least three different characters, although after reading the instruction manual and playing the game, I think you can play as a fourth character, Floyd, in certain levels.

The three main characters are Juno and Vela, a twin brother and sister team who are members of the Jet Force Gemini, and Lupus,

their dog, who appears to be cybernetically enhanced.

This is the first game in which the animal actually behaves like, well, an animal. He runs on all fours, whimpers when hit, howls, has jets attached to his feet, and has weapons attached to his back. It's just like my neighbour's dog.

The graphics are really good. The colours are bright, and some of the levels are pretty impressive.

The sound in the game is outstanding. When you blow an alien bug to bits, you can hear the

squish of its guts hitting the ground and walls. The sounds of enemies sometimes allow you to hear what's around the next corner and most enemies make some kind of sound, so you know if you're hitting them or just wasting ammo. Mines ping and drones grunt when they attack and squeal when they die.

Some major faults with the game are the camera angles and the control. Most 3-D action/adventure games have a few bugs in the way camera angles are used but Jet Force Gemini has

more than just a few. It seemed as if every five minutes I was cursing at the game because I couldn't figure out what was going on.

Walls disappear when you get too close. Platforms right in front of you can't be seen because the camera is too low or too high.

When you get into a confrontation, your character becomes transparent, which by the way is a really cool feature, but then the control of their movement is different when moving backwards and that is definitely not cool.

One thing I didn't get a chance

to try out was the multi-player feature. I've heard this game would be one to finally take on the N64 reigning multi-player champ Golden Eye, also developed by Rare.

I rented this game for three days but I didn't finish it. That's always a good sign. If I can finish a game after renting it once, I think I would have been very upset if I had bought it. Any fan of first-person shooters or adventure games should at least rent it. If I had the money I think I'd pick this one up.

ENTERTAINMENT

Age-old saga of teen rebellion revisited

By LISA TAFT
Staff Writer

Being swept away on your mother's late life journey for bigger and better things would probably be enough to spark any young girl's resentment toward her mother.

Susan Sarandon and Natalie Portman take you into their hearts as mother and daughter (Adele and Ann August) in the movie *Anywhere But Here*.

Sarandon plays a flighty mother who packs her daughter (Portman) up and moves to Beverly Hills in search of an exciting life.

Portman plays a realist who is let down by her mother's failed attempts at success at everything from keeping a man to paying the bills.

The one thing that keeps Sarandon going is a dream life that doesn't exist for her. Portman lives

for the day where she can leave her mother and her mother's Beverly Hills dreams.

This movie, directed by Wayne Wang, guides you through the struggles of the mother and daughter team. It has the audience

Sarandon and Portman take you into their hearts as mother and daughter.

rooting for Portman and feeling sympathetic for Sarandon.

Both Portman and Sarandon are familiar faces on the big screen. Sarandon has appeared in such films as *Bull Durham*, *The Client* and *Dead Man Walking*.

Viewers might recognize Portman from her famous role as

Queen Amidala in *Star Wars Episode One: The Phantom Menace*.

The pairing of the two women works well in this movie. They appeared to have chemistry. Sarandon has a confused looking face as opposed to Portman's serious demeanour. Their faces reflect their characters and help the audience understand where they were coming from.

I enjoyed this film. It was a nice way to spend two hours on a Saturday afternoon.

I had only one problem. This is a feel-good flick, not a Friday night \$8 movie.

Although this movie is touching, teenage rebellion is as original as a damsel in distress. This is the only reason I would recommend waiting for this movie to come out on video.



Submitted photo by Lorey Sebastian

Mass marketers fuelling Pokémon craze



By MARTIN McQUAIG
Staff writer
Column

I'm all Pokémoned out.

We have yet to hit the retail madness that cloaks December like a thick duvet, and already this year's buzzword on youngsters, Pokémon, has worn itself thin.

Now if only I could figure out what Pokémon is.

My nose for news led me to the recent premiere screening of *Pokémon the First Movie*. I used to think I knew youngsters pretty well, until I asked them to explain the phenomenon to me.

The best I could assemble was that Pokémon was a Nintendo 64 and Nintendo Gameboy games series that spawned a cartoon series and trading cards. Eleven of these cards come in a pack that sells for between \$5 and \$10.

"It's outrageous," one father said of the card prices.

Lucas, 10, said his mom usually buys them for him. Of the 151 different types of characters who live in the Pokémon universe, Lucas says Charizard's is his most valuable card.

The real controversy started when kids who lost their cards in Pokémon games at school showed up the next day threatening other kids.

To prove you can take the morality from the kid, but you can't take the kid out of the lowlife, a Burlington man cleaned out a Zellers' supply of cards and sold them in the same mall at 100 per cent markup.

You've got to hand it to the Pokémon creators. At least they're working hard to mop up these kids' allowances

(or their parents' milk money). The Furby craze of Christmas 1998 hadn't nearly the barrage of publicity we see about the Pokémon universe. This year, an eight-year-old kid can feel confident that he is being duped by one of this decade's most formidable mass-marketing forces.

We shouldn't be worried about kids losing their Pokémon cards at school. When a technicality in the marble pits cost me a prized jumbo steelie in third grade, I learned a painful but valuable lesson in commerce. It's called "watch your back." If you lose a Pikachu card, don't stick around to see your Charizard go too.

Las Vegas must be loving this trend. In 10 years, these are the same young people that will be dropping the rent at the Pai-Gow poker tables.

In any case, parents of small children will be dropping a lot of "Poke-money" this holiday season.

Who said the Tokyo market was in trouble?

Japan's animation arrives in North America

By NATSUKO TAMURA
Staff Writer

Animation has a charismatic pull in Japan, as parents with a Pokémon-loving child can tell you.

After the advent of Pokémon: The First Movie, the new film *Princess Mononoke* has arrived in North America this month. The animated movie has already been given an award by the Japanese Academy.

It's not a film aimed at small children, however.

Directed by Hayao Miyazaki, widely considered the "most influential animator alive" today, *Princess Mononoke* is graphically sophisticated and sets a different standard from the Disney-animated formula of good versus evil.

Miyazaki set out to create an ecological fable that would celebrate both the majesty of nature and mankind's drive.

In Japan, it captured a huge box-office gross of \$150 million in 1997, more than any other movie except *Titanic* has made.

Distributed by Miramax, a subsidiary of Disney, the English-language script was written by famous British animator and writer Neil Gaiman and by Jack Fletcher.

"*Princess Mononoke* is the kind of film that people won't get to see very often, very visual and outside the mainstream," said Gaiman in a news release, adding it's complicated.

The best way to enjoy *Princess Mononoke* is to ponder its impressions, not wait for the climactic point.

Reflecting social and environmental upheaval in the 16th century, the story centres on a noble warrior, Ashitaka, voiced by Billy Crudup, who saves his village by slaying a mad, rampaging boar-god.

With his arm infected by the boar's curse of hatred during the death struggle, Ashitaka is destined to seek out the cause of the boar's hate and prevent it from spreading through his body.

Riding his dependable red elk, he eventually comes upon a battle between an iron-making village and a nearby forest, where Ashitaka meets the leader of the iron factory, a formidable, practical woman, Lady Eboshi, (Minnie Driver).

Meanwhile, the giant wolf-goddess Moro (Gillian Anderson) plots the humans' destruction with the help of Mononoke (Claire Danes), a feral girl whom Moro has raised from infancy. She allies herself with

the forest gods and attempts to fend off the factory's expansion. A war has been declared by gods and spirits on encroaching humans. Ashitaka is drawn into the struggles between man and nature and tries to persuade the two sides to find a way that forest creatures and humans can live in peace together.



From Miramax Web site

ter of an individual who sees both worlds and makes a choice on how to live, knowing that both worlds exist."

Barry Cook and Tony Bancroft, who directed Disney's 1998 hit *Mulan*, said in the *Dallas Morning News*, Miyazaki is like a "god" to them.

Miyazaki was invited to the Toronto International Film Festival this year. In a

The question of nature versus human society is not as easy as saying, "Oh, if only nature were protected, people would be happy," said Miyazaki, in a recent article from the *Dallas Morning News*.

"It's not a matter of choosing one over the other, or judging one to be correct and the other wrong. It's a matter of an individual who sees both worlds and makes a choice on how to live, knowing that both worlds exist."

press release, he said there's no assumption of success for the film in America because he knows these views are bound to disappoint some audiences, especially those who go to the movie with the expectation of "entertainment." In other words, "good and evil must duel at the end with a good wrap-up."

Unlike the average cartoon features, *Princess Mononoke*, more than three years in the making, runs more than two hours. The film is rated PG-13, involving some violent imagery, but no nudity.

Miyazaki forges his own unique style in the animation process. Hand-drawn and painted by the studio's artists, 144,000 cels were used in the movie with 10 per cent of computer-generated images. His previous films had been completely handcrafted.

Born in Tokyo, Miyazaki started his career in 1963. He played an important role in many early classics of Japanese animation.

In 1984, his masterpiece film, *Nausicaä of the Valley of Wind*, was released, and its success led him to the establishment of a new animation studio, Studio Ghibli, where Miyazaki has directed five feature-length films in the '90s, such as *My Neighbour Totoro* and *Kiki's Delivery Service*. These movies are available in English.

ENTERTAINMENT

Stop the show



By JASON VIZBULIS
Staff Writer

Column

One of these days the television is going out the front door, never to return.

The number of low-quality comedy shows, boring game shows and endless and useless talk shows just might make me actually do something productive with my limited spare time.

I lust for the days of M.A.S.H., Cheers, Night Court and WKRP in Cincinnati. These shows were funny without trying to change the world. To watch these shows is comedy at its best. What can beat Klinger in a dress, Norm on a barstool, Judge Harry Stone on the bench in various costumes, and Johnny Fever coming in and out of consciousness between midnight shifts?

I'm not old. My rage is not against the youth, just against what I feel they are forced to watch. These times we're living in are stressful enough without television adding to it.

If you want real-life drama look at your own life and family. If that's not enough, there's a whole lot of drama right out your front door and it's not hard to find.

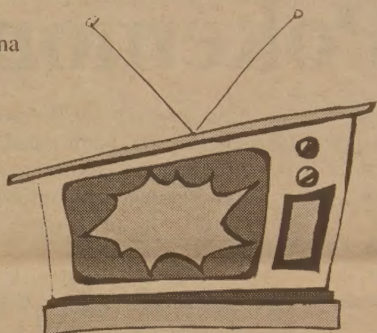
Take, for instance, the show Party of Five. The parents are dead. Bailey's an alcoholic. Julia's marriage ended and then she got a boyfriend who beat her.

The family restaurant is always on the verge of closing, and the oldest son Charlie got cancer. That is one party I don't want to go to.

Now to the truly stupid. Talk show host Jerry Springer still has the freaks on but they can't fight anymore, which was the only reason to watch it. The Regis Philbin show, Who Wants to be a Millionaire?, is nothing more than a glorified multiple-choice test. With a little music and some fancy lights, my whole university career could have been a game show without the debt I incurred.

My rage, however, does get a break once in a while. The Drew Carey Show provides the biting humour I need. Drew and his friends go week after week being funny without being serious or politically correct. The Simpsons have entertained me for the past 10 seasons by taking a lighthearted look at political and social issues and making fun of them. Nothing can beat Homer Simpson tackling world issues and coming away with the last laugh.

Maybe people need serious shows because they need more stress in their life. Not me. Give me comedy or give me a book.



Disney goes to college

By PAUL MOONEY
Staff Writer

Representatives from Walt Disney World visited Niagara College on Oct. 7. Recruiting officials from the Epcot Center in Orlando, Fla. were at the Maid of the Mist Centre, in Niagara Falls.

"This has become an annual event," said Janet Forfar, who was partially responsible for its organization. Forfar, an employment counsellor at Niagara College, added, "Disney has been recruiting from our college for many years."

Disney sent three recruiting officials for interviews with selected Culinary Management, Recreation and Leisure Services as well as Tourism, Tours and Attractions students. Interviewees attended a seminar held from 9:30 a.m. to 11 a.m.

"This is a great opportunity for our students to gain invaluable experience," said Forfar. Students

who receive positions with Disney will receive a one-year contract to work at the resort. "Students not only act as employees for Disney but as representatives of Canada."

Canadians stationed at Disney are required to work in the Canadian Pavilion. "Last year Disney acquired 10 students from Niagara," said Forfar, adding the quality of the students produced from the three recruited programs is "apparent from the number of Disney positions they receive."

Stephanie Mitchell, 22, was one of Disney's selected employees from Niagara College. Mitchell, who is completing her final year in the Tourism, Tours and Attraction program, recalls her interview with Disney over a year ago.

"I was extremely nervous going into the interview," said Mitchell. "I knew it was an opportunity that I didn't want to pass me by."

Mitchell said she received a phone call a few weeks later

informing her that she had been selected. "I couldn't believe it. I couldn't wait to go."

Mitchell spent a year at Walt Disney World working as a cashier. "You get free accommodations at the Vista Way (a Disney-owned hotel), and your roommates are all from various countries."

Mitchell described the Disney environment as a "cultural mosaic."

"Our responsibility is to create a family atmosphere for the people visiting the theme park, and being with people from different countries really creates a diverse sense of community."

Javier Reyes, one of the three Disney representatives, said Disney continues to recruit students from Niagara College because of the "quality of employee they produce." Students, who were interviewed on Oct. 7, will soon be informed if they will be hired.

Limp Bizkit rocks SkyDome

By MATT HOLLEY
Staff Writer

Everyone should see Limp Bizkit live.

Limp rocked the SkyDome on Nov. 18 for a crowd of about 13,500. Limp took the stage shortly after 9:30 p.m. The crowd was pumped. The general admission floor was practically packed, and a thick cloud of marijuana smoke hung in the air, despite the no-smoking rules in the SkyDome.

The crowd had been hyped up by a solid performance by Wu-Tang Clan members Method Man and Redman.

With the crowd waiting and growing impatient for Limp Bizkit to take the stage, the lights in the SkyDome suddenly went dark. When the stage lights came on, Fred Durst (lead singer of Limp Bizkit) was standing at the top of a staircase on an elaborate set with the band's name in lights above him. To either side of him were two science beakers overflowing with smoke.

Durst knows how to get a crowd riled up. From asking them to raise their middle fingers in the air and say "F##*@ you!" to telling all the girls to get on someone's shoulders so he can see the "ladies," Durst had complete control of his fans.

Limp Bizkit is truly a fan's band. Durst called a

member from the audience up on stage to rap with him and brought girls from the crowd up to dance on stage. A couple of times during the show Durst ran through the crowd, performing in the midst of his fans.

With excellent performances of everything the band has, including N 2 Gether Now, which he performed with Method Man, Limp Bizkit practically blew the dome right off the building.

The show ended with an incredible show of pyrotechnics. As fire erupted at four points on stage, explosions sounding like gun shots drowned out the crowd.

Finally the crowd was showered by confetti as the band performed their final song, Nookie. With the crowd roaring and apparently satisfied, Limp Bizkit took their exit without the need for an encore.



WES BORLAND

Hard-hitting wrestling tunes pumping up crowd

By ROBERT LAPENSÉE
Staff Writer

I'm finally back from a few weeks in the editorial cycle. Now that I'm out of the editorial loop, it is time to focus on what is important — the wrestling report. Come on folks, it is time to get hardcore.

This week I'd like to do something a little different. The World Wrestling Federation (WWF) has released its fourth music album. I recently received a copy of WWF — The Music — Volume Four. It is the latest compilation of wrestlers' entrance themes with one track by H-Blockx inspired by Stone Cold Steve Austin.

Music is an important tool wrestling promotions can use. Music helps stir up the audience. The crowd leaps to its feet whenever it hears the shattering glass at the beginning of Stone Cold's music.

Lately, the WWF has been pumping out some good tunes. This CD has the best of all the theme songs. What makes them so good is that they represent the wrestlers they introduce very well.

The CD has some hard-hitting tunes; some send strong messages to their competition.

The CD opens with *Break Down the Wall*. This track, hard and aggressive and a perfect example of the rock music of the late 1990s is the flashy and exciting entrance theme of Chris Jericho. The lyrics send a strong message to World Championship Wrestling.

As you know, Jericho jumped ship early this year. WCW limited him in more ways than one. They had him fighting, and losing, to guys he was clearly better than. WCW was holding him down for guys who were past their prime.

The main reason for him to jump was that he'd have more creative control over his character in the WWF and he'd receive a push to fight wrestlers of his calibre. Thus, his coming to the WWF broke down the walls and his character will benefit.

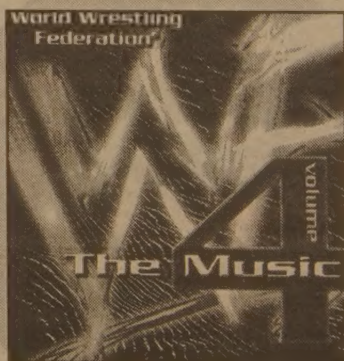
Big, the theme music for The Big Show, has a message in it as well. The song's lyrics scream out "Well it's the Big Show," as The Big Show walks down the aisle. The WWF has referred to itself as the big show and I suspect use it to get under the skin of WCW.

The disk has some limp tunes, such as *Big* and Mark Henry's *Sexual Chocolate*. Both are slow, much like the wrestlers themselves. *Sexual Chocolate* is funny as it tries to set a romantic tone as Henry walks toward the ring.

Volume Four redeems itself with theme music from Test, Triple H, the Rock, Jericho and Edge. *No Chance in Hell*, Vince McMahon's music, and Austin's remix help add some edge to the disk.

This is a fun CD and would be a valuable piece in any fan's collection of merchandise. Even non-wrestling fans can enjoy the music on this disk.

In the immortal words of the Rock, go down to your local music store, buy this CD, wrap it up, turn it sideways and shove it straight up your . . . CD player.



SPORTS

Indoor soccer takes flight at Niagara



Sean Jones, 21, of St. Catharines, a member of the Enforcers, sprained his ankle and was taken out late in the first half. Jones is a student in the Law and Security Administration program.

Photo by Mike Dilts

Intramural soccer at college has students going for the gold

By MIKE DILTS
Staff Writer

The gymnasium was brilliant with the play of two goalies shining in intramural indoor soccer.

Seven teams of Niagara College students were involved in four different games on Nov. 18 in week three of the competition.

Intramural soccer pits teams of Niagara College students in a non-travelling schedule.

All games are held at the Welland campus's Mackenzie building.

Orphans played Fuerza Latina in game one. In the first half, Fuerza Latina led 4-0. In the second half, Orphans fought to get back into the game, but lost 7-0.

"They're kind of better than us," said Tiffany Cowan, 18, of St. Catharines, a member of the Orphans. Cowan said, "We should have maybe played with a little more defence and

offence." Cowan is a student in the Recreation and Leisure Services program.

Fubar played P1 in game 2. In the first half, P1 had a 2-1 lead. In the second half, Fubar tied the game, only to be scored against in the dying seconds to lose 3-2.

"Our team played good," said Nick Roy, 19, of Kenora, Ont., and a member of P1. "We had a strong offence and defence. We got a couple of lucky goals and came out on top." Roy is a student in the Paramedic program.

"This is my second team and I'm so sick of losing," said Dave Robinson, 22, of Hamilton, a member of the Fubar team. "It was a tough loss considering the fact that we're two (wins) and zero." Robinson, a Broadcasting — Radio, Television and Film program student, said, "I think we had the team to beat them."

Rex played Enforcers in game 3. In the first half, Rex scored two goals.

Sean Jones, 21, of St. Catharines, a member of the Enforcers, sprained his ankle and was taken out late in the first half.

Jones is a student in the Law and Security Administration program.

In the second half, the Enforcers couldn't score.

'We got a couple of lucky goals and came out on top.'

—Nick Roy

Harry Ntiatta, 21, of Toronto, stopped every shot at him. He made 14 saves for the shutout.

"I'm so happy, man, so happy. I think I'm No. 1," said Ntiatta, the Rex team goalie. He's a student in Computer Electrical Electronic Engineering Technology.

P2 played Orphans in game 4. In the first half, the Orphans scored the only goal of the game. In the second, Warren Bent, 20, of Dryden, Ont., made seven outstanding saves to give Orphans the win.

"I'm glad they missed the net so much," said Bent. "I was out of position a lot, but my goal-tending is improving." Bent is a student in the Business Administration program.

Gaunt shines as Knights defeat Cambrian

Graeme Gaunt plays vital role as Niagara Knights put down Cambrian College

By JASON VIZBULIS
Staff Writer

The Niagara College gym has hosted another performance of the Graeme Gaunt show.

Gaunt, with his 18 kills, three blocks and one service ace, backstopped the Niagara College men's volleyball team to a three games to one victory over Cambrian College of Sudbury on Nov. 12.

Gaunt was more interested in the team results than personal statistics.

"I think the team played pretty well tonight. The first game, we were kind of nervous coming off the loss to Humber."

Niagara lost the first game 25-19. They have now lost the first game in every home match this year.

Game two was close, with Niagara winning 26-24. Jeff Swezdaryk came off the bench and chipped in four kills. Niagara took control of the third game, winning 25-14 behind Gaunt's six kills. The fourth game saw Niagara finish off Cambrian with a 28-26 win.

Gaunt said the team is "starting to play as a team. Things are really starting to gel."

Niagara's coach Blair Cudmore agreed, saying he

was "happy with the team's performance." He added, "Cory McKeown showed a lot of heart that we needed." McKeown had six kills while coming back from a serious Achilles's tendon injury.

Besides Gaunt's strong performance, Jeremy Swezdaryk had 10 kills, three blocks, and two aces while Josh Gunnell also had 10 kills to go along

'Cory McKeown showed a lot of heart that we needed.'

—Blair Cudmore

with two blocks and two aces.

Starter Matt Piccolo missed the game with a toe injury, Cudmore said. On Nov. 10, Niagara suffered its first loss of the season against Humber College in Etobicoke.

Niagara again lost the first game 25-19. Niagara rebounded to win the second game 25-22, but dropped the next two games by scores of 25-20 and 27-25.

Cudmore said that loss would probably cost the team its national ranking. Going into the game, Niagara was rated ninth out of all the men's college volleyball teams in Canada.

Niagara College is ranked 12th in the country by the Canadian Collegiate Athletic Association.

Niagara is home tonight against Mohawk College of Hamilton at 8 p.m.



Andrew Chantel attempts a kill. Niagara downed Cambrian College of Sudbury three games to one.

Photo by Jason Vizbulis

Wrecked 'N' Leisure top Bullies in intramural soccer

By MIKE DILTS
Staff Writer

It was two shutouts for Wrecked 'N' Leisure.

Three teams each played two games in Week 4 of intramural indoor soccer on Nov. 23.

The teams were Wrecked 'N' Leisure, Corporation and Broadcast Bullies, involving students from Niagara College.

In game one, Wreck 'N' Leisure

played Corporation. Wrecked 'N' Leisure scored the only goal in the first half. In the second, they scored two more to give them a 3-0 victory.

"We really worked as a team," said Kelly Jones, 21, of Welland, a Recreation and Leisure Services program student. "The team came up pretty big."

In the second game, Wrecked 'N' Leisure faced Broadcast

Bullies. Wrecked 'N' Leisure scored early in the first half and won the game 3-0.

'I feel very confident that we are going to take the intramural championship.'

—Brett Elliott

"We're just trying to take it day by day," said Brett Elliott, 21, of

Sarnia, who got his third straight shutout.

"It's important that I get the shutouts as long as the team wins," said Elliott, a Recreation and Leisure Services program student. "I feel very confident that we are going to take the intramural championship."

Tuesday night indoor soccer is usually a three-game schedule, but because the Beavers have dropped

out of the competition, there were only two games played. On Nov. 30 at 2:40 p.m. there will be three games scheduled.

Wrecked 'N' Leisure has five wins and no defeats, plus one tie. Broadcast Bullies has three wins, three losses. Corporation has one win, two losses and two ties. Beavers has four losses and one tie.

BUSINESS

Chef grad has right stuff for success

Owner of Venice Pizza and Pasta Bar graduated from the Hotel and Restaurant Management

By CASSANDRA SIMONS
Staff Writer

The owner of Venice Pizza and Pasta Bar, located at the corner of First Avenue and Woodlawn Road in Welland, is a graduate of Niagara College.

Lorenzo Lucchetta, 31, graduated from the Hotel and Restaurant Management program at the Maid of the Mist Centre in Niagara Falls 11 years ago.

'I enjoy cooking and serving. My parents enjoyed my cooking. I try everything I cook.'

— Lorenzo Lucchetta

"I liked going to Niagara College. The program was good. I'd recommend the program to anyone who's interested," Lucchetta said.

Lucchetta, of Welland, said the Venice is the first restaurant he's owned, but "I've

been in the industry since I graduated."

He said he has owned the restaurant for about a year and a half.

"The best aspects of owning your own restaurant is the self-fulfilment of doing what you love to do."

He said he came up with the idea for the interior decorating, and the staff did the decorations.

These are designs of bricks on a plain wall and vines, with pictures of Italian people and architecture.

The kitchen and its open oven are exposed for customers to see. The whole atmosphere is relaxed, with a touch of Italy.

Lucchetta said he's wanted to be a chef since he was about 15 years old.

"I enjoy cooking and serving. My parents enjoyed my cooking. I try everything I cook."



Lorenzo Lucchetta, owner of Venice Pizza and Pasta Bar and a graduate of Niagara College, stands by the bar in the restaurant on First Avenue.

Photo by Cassandra Simons

He said operating your own business is time consuming. "You have to do everything from washing dishes to doing clerical work."

He said he'd like to grow within the industry "to get bigger and better."

The restaurant offers live jazz music every Sunday evening for customers to enjoy. It has a bar, and the menu consists of

different salads, pastas and pizzas. The restaurant is open every day of the week from 11:30 a.m. to 2 a.m.

He said he'd recommend owning a restaurant to anyone.

"It's not easy to start your own restaurant. It's very expensive. You have to have the right qualifications, the right attitude and good work ethics."

'Handy' marketing skills help grad launch business

By SHANNON MASTALER
Staff Writer

A Niagara College public relations professor has sent another successful student in the right direction.

Kelly Anderson, 27, of Fredericton, N.B., graduated from the Public Relations (Post-graduate) program last year and has recently opened her own business. Anderson credits most of her success to the skills Nancy Geddie, co-ordinator of the program, taught her.

Anderson owns and operates a home-based business with her mother, Ann Anderson, called Alderbush Baskets.

"We offer convenient and quality gifts," said Anderson. "In the busy Christmas season, instead of going to the malls, you can click on our Web site (www.alderbushbaskets.com) and order a gift that can be delivered the next day."

Anderson said the program taught her a lot about free publicity. "The ability to receive free publicity is very important."

Anderson said that after graduating she couldn't find the kind of employment she wanted.

"When I came back to New Brunswick, I didn't find a job I was interested in. I and my mother decided it was a good time to start our business," said Anderson.

She targets big corporations in Canada as well as government offices. "We target regular consumers too."

"I chose Niagara College because after I graduated from the University of New Brunswick with my bachelor of arts, I wanted a PR program that was only one or two years long," said Anderson. "There was nothing offered here in New Brunswick, so I chose Niagara because it offered that, and it offered the PR and marketing skills I wanted."

She said the skills she learned from Geddie came in "very handy."

"She gave me a broad range of skills that I am using a lot," said Anderson. "PR skills and publicity skills are very important."

Anderson said she would recommend Niagara College's program to those interested in starting their own business. "With the mix of marketing and PR skills, it gave me a good background in the skills I needed to start a successful business."

20 STUDENTS TOOK OUR MONEY LAST SUMMER. AND WE'D LIKE TO NAME NAMES.

The following students are guilty of working their butts off for a variety of charities this past summer. Thanks for a great job, from your friends at **Labatt**.

SAMER ABOUD	RYAN LAPIDUS	CHRIS NEESER
EMILY CHEN	KATHIE MACHADO	NICOLE NILES
JESSICA FREEMAN	JEREMY MARK	JENNIFER PENDLEBURY
BONNI-MARIE FUGARD	JENNIFER MARTIN	ASABI PARKER
LISA I-TING FU	DOMINIC MASCOLL	RICHARD SAMUEL
DEBBIE KOLOZSVARI	MICHELLE MORGAN	TERESA WELSH
MARIE-JOSEE LALONDE	SHAUNA MORGAN	



Labatt People in Action is a partnership between Labatt Breweries of Canada and Human Resources Development Canada.

CHRISTMAS

We're bloomin'

By PENNI LAFLEUR
Staff Writer

Everything's coming up . . . poinsettias?
It is that season again and the Horticulture Technician program students have lots of them for sale.

With this year marking the first for the program at the new Glendale campus, in Niagara-on-the-Lake, Jim Thomson, technician instructor, says there is a large selection of poinsettia sizes and colours available.

"We have six-, seven-, eight- and 10-inch poinsettias and even some mixed for Christmas with mums."

They are available for sale now. Students are retailing the plants from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays. Thomson says the greenhouse will be open for one Saturday only, on Dec. 4, with the same hours.

The greenhouse, located at the back of the college campus, has a separate parking lot for customers and serves as a commercial storefront.

Prices for the traditional holiday foliage start at \$3.95. Proceeds are returned to the program to help finance greenhouse upgrades and offset the cost of supplies, such as soil and mix.

For more than 25 years the program was located on Niagara Street, in St. Catharines, with direct access to the public. Thomson says he thinks the new location will give them "a much larger pool of customers to draw from with the staff and students."

He says some of the plants "will probably" be taken to the bookstore at the Welland campus and the Maid of the Mist Centre, in Niagara Falls, for availability at those locations. However, at the Glendale campus, sales will only be through the greenhouse.

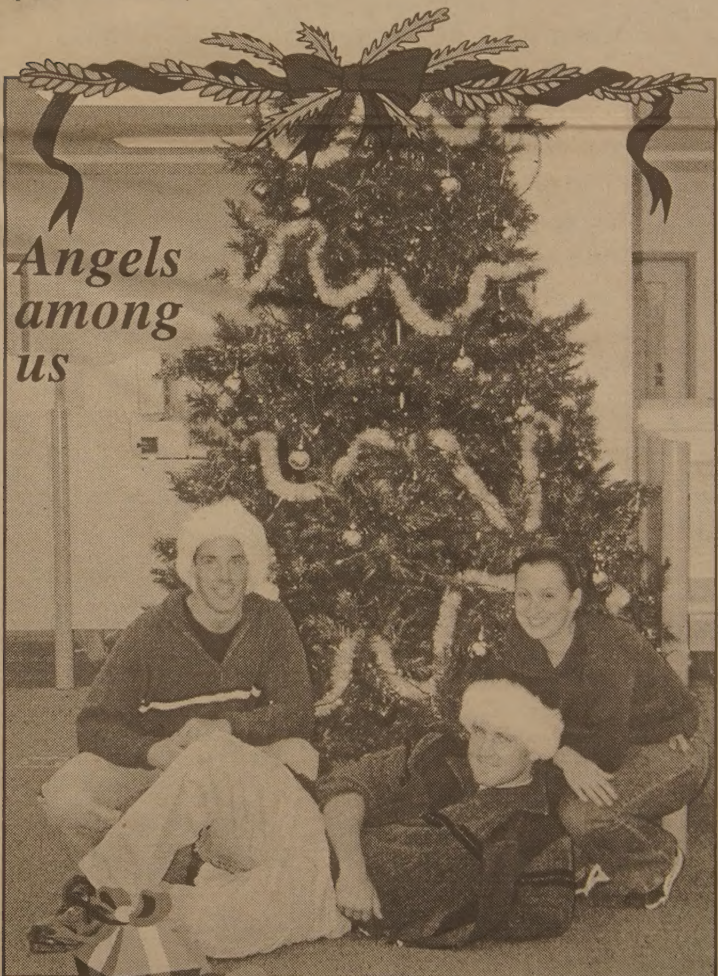
Thomson says the greenhouse is operational from September until April and features the sale of a certain plant each month. The annual open house is scheduled for March 2000.

"Next year we hope to expand, but since this is the first year we don't know what our limit is. If we have a good response we'll grow more (poinsettias) next year."



They planted them, watched them grow and are now, ready to sell them. Students from the Horticulture Technician program will be selling the product of their labour until Christmas. From left are two first-year students, Tracey Welch, 19, of Bothwell, living in St. Catharines, and Ali Penko, 21, of Hamilton, living in St. Catharines.

Photo by Penni Lafleur



Adopt an Angel program is once again highlighted by the Student Administrative Council (SAC) for the Christmas season. The three campuses have their trees up and ready to be decorated with cards containing information about a child who would receive the donated gift. The trees are in the library at all campuses. Proceeds from the program at the Glendale campus, in Niagara-on-the-Lake, will benefit Community Care of St. Catharines and Thorold. SAC representatives, from left, are James Upper, a student representative, Jen Gaboury, vice-president campus events, and Kevin Reles, president.

Photo by Penni Lafleur

date

Dec. 1

► FINE ART

FANTASY ◀

place

Glendale-Concourse

WILDLIFE ◀

hours

9-5

► GIANT-SIZED POSTERS

► MUSIC

FRAMES & HANGERS ◀

► FILM

► PHOTOGRAPHY

► 1000S OF POSTERS

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Computer Engineering Technician
Electrical Engineering Technician
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